CARNEY HINTS AT INTEREST RATE CUT, PG 18

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*Details on website.

Gas costs may drop further, expert says

PUMP As he stood filling the tank of his Jeep at a Toronto gas station for 79.3 cents a litre yesterday, Chad Pegelo seemed unimpressed by the recent drop in prices.

"The price ... at 80 cents a litre, it's still 80 cents a litre," said the 32-year-old, noting he thinks prices should be lower.

A report from consulting firm M.J. Ervin and Associates shows Canadian gas prices are at their lowest level in 22 months at an average of 85.4 cents per litre.

"There's probably more potential for prices to decline from this point," said firm president Michael Ervin, adding the economic crisis will push down demand for crude oil and thus drive down prices.

But he added the crisis will likely mean people won't increase their driving despite lower prices.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gift guide pg 29

Ideas for all on your list

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Addicted to eyeing online

Sports pg 21

Raptors beat the Heat

MICHAEL STUPARYK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police tape off a home on Welwyn Avenue in Scarborough where four bodies, believed to be that of Wanda and Keith Delong, and their children Richard Delong and Elizabeth Tompkins, were discovered yesterday. Tompkins' husband was taken into custody.

Four found dead

Man questioned in what police call a domestic incident

In front of the Scarborough bungalow that was a scene of horror, the man drove up and down Welwyn Avenue.

Neighbours said James "Jim" Tompkins looked dazed and had a blank look on his face when he finally got out of his Suzuki Sidekick yesterday morning and stood staring at his in-laws' home.

A note taped to the front door of the house read: "Do not enter, call police."

Inside, police found four bodies, believed to be Tompkins' wife Elizabeth, her parents Keith and Wanda Delong, and her brother Richard Delong.

Officers described the scene as a "violent" tableaux of a domestic incident.

Shocked neighbours, mostly elderly residents who have lived on the quiet street near Markham and Ellesmere roads for decades, watched as Tompkins stood with his elbows on a mail box talking to a female police officer.

Moments later two police cruisers arrived.

Tompkins was handcuffed and taken away in a police cruiser. He spent the day in police custody.

"I seen (Tompkins) weeping and the cops came and took him under arrest, in handcuffs," neighbour Seth Rogers said.

Yellow police tape cordoned off a block of homes on Welwyn Avenue yesterday. Similar tape was strung around a Whitby apartment complex where Tompkins and his wife own an apartment.

Neighbours on Welwyn Avenue said Elizabeth had arrived at her parents' home on Tuesday to help them get ready for a trip to Mexico, where her 92-year-old grandmother is dying.

A woman who identified herself as Tompkins' sister said her brother hadn't heard from his wife Tuesday night and got worried, so he drove to Toronto to check on her. That's when he found the note, she said, and called police.

Police are expected to comment this morning.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Residents 'one happy little family'

• Neighbours described Keith, a retired IBM employee, and Wanda, a homemaker, as "wonderful people," who were tidy, quiet and friendly, and often helped friends with odd jobs.

PHOTO COURTESY CTV

From left, Wanda and Keith Delong, and daughter Elizabeth Tompkins.

"They seemed to be one happy little family," said Brenda Whynot, who lives down the street. "They were great people."

Tories warn aid package still far off

THRONE SPEECH In a sobering economic message, the Conservative government is warning of deficits and government belt-tightening as Ottawa copes with "extraordinary" financial challenges.

The Tories used yesterday's throne speech to evoke the hardships of the Depression and two world wars to underline the challenge posed today by a worldwide financial crisis.

"This is a time of unprecedented extraordinary global economic challenge and uncertainty," Governor General Michaëlle Jean said as she read the speech in the Senate.

But despite the grim news, the speech was vague on government help for hard-hit sectors, including auto manufacturers.

And Finance Minister Jim Flaherty made clear a stimulus package to kick start the economy — promised by Harper last weekend — is still months away.

That will disappoint many who were hoping next week's fiscal and economic update would become a minibudget to deliver aid measures.

"It certainly will not be in the fall economic update," he said. But he didn't rule out new measures to help the economy eventually. "If we have to do more for Canadians, we will do more."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 9

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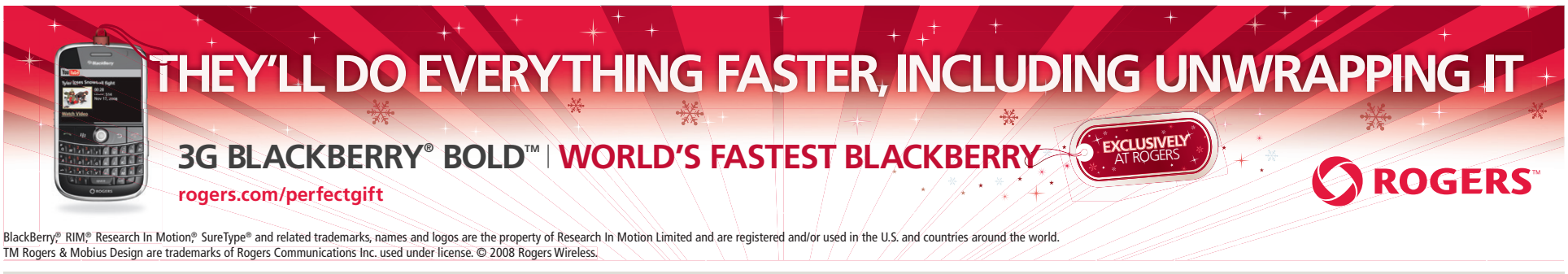

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Woman hit by car, in critical condition
A woman struck by a car Tuesday night in the east part of the city remains in hospital in critical condition. The woman was crossing Ellesmere Road near Deep Dene Drive when she was hit by a car travelling eastbound on Ellesmere. The accident is still under investigation. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Homicide website launched

Toronto police have launched a homicide website at torontopolice.on.ca/homicide. The site is intended as a resource for victims' families, in addition to a library of 400 unsolved cases dating back to the 1950s. It contains profiles of each homicide and the victims. It also offers a guide for grieving families that answers questions.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Lotteries

Lotto 6/49: 24, 28, 34, 38, 44 & 45. Bonus 35; **Ontario 49:** 4, 7, 16, 23, 24 & 31. Bonus 36; **Ontario Pick 3:** 5 3 8; **Ontario Pick 4:** 8 9 1 8; **Encore:** 8782265; **Daily Keno:** 6, 7, 10, 11, 17, 22, 23, 28, 29, 32, 35, 39, 53, 54, 59, 60, 62, 64, 68, 70. These results are not official.

High price for poverty

Poverty costs Ontario a staggering $38 billion a year — and we all pay the price, says a new report that offers the first-ever analysis of the problem's economic impact on everyone.

Although the province's 905,000 poorest households bear the brunt of the cost, everyone feels the pinch, says the report written by a group of leading economic and public policy experts to be released at Queen's Park today.

The social costs alone in Ontario are between $10.4 billion and $13.1 billion every year due to poverty — an amount that adds up to about $2,900 per household, according to the report.

We all pay in increased costs for health care, crime and social assistance; in the loss of tax revenue that accompanies low earnings; and in the intergenerational cycle of poor children growing up to be poor adults, it says.

"Poverty is not just about the homeless person on the sidewalk ... it affects everybody and that's what this report tries to show," said TD Bank vice president Don Drummond, one of two economists who worked on the report.

"The cost is so large that substantial efforts are warranted to fight it," he added.

The report doesn't say how much Queen's Park would need to spend to end poverty. But it urges the government to tackle the root causes. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Report

- The $25,000 report, sponsored by the Ontario Association of Food Banks, comes on the eve of the McGuinty government's promised poverty reduction strategy, expected early next month.

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Coun. Giorgio Mammoliti, left, gets involved as City of Toronto workers measure off parking space at a plaza on Islington Avenue near Milwick Drive.

City reclaims parking spots

Toronto officials yesterday began moving concrete curbs at five strip malls along Islington Avenue to take back city-owned land.

The new placement of the barriers will keep people from parking in about 120 spots along a city-owned boulevard that have been used by drivers for years without formal permission.

Business owners and their tenants were upset by the move, which came the day after the Etobicoke-York community council refused their pleas to reopen debate on the parking issue.

"This is not even 24 hours. They say they want to work with you, but they don't," said Lina Matturo, who runs a travel agency in the Royal Plaza.

Coun. Giorgio Mammoliti, who represents the area, argued that the owners and tenants have been told for months that the city would be taking back the boulevard. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Halton sends tough message

GROWTH Halton Region Council threw down the gauntlet yesterday with a resolution that says to developers and Queen's Park: Give us more money for infrastructure, or we'll freeze growth. Passed unanimously without debate, the resolution expands on a clause in the region's official plan that would allow the region to refuse sewer and water pipe connections to as many as 40,000 new homes in north Oakville and Milton, until financing arrangements are acceptable. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

GUILTY A Mississauga man admitted murdering one man and trying to kill another in a deadly shooting spree that had no motive. Anurddha Ratwatte, 22, yesterday pleaded guilty to the second-degree murder in the death of Harpreet Chambal and the attempted murder of his friend Behzad Zahid. Ratwatte will most likely receive a life sentence with no parole eligibility for 10 to 25 years. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Suspects armed with Taser in Oshawa robbery

Durham police are seeking three suspects following an Oshawa robbery. Three masked men, one armed with a Taser, broke into the home of a young couple just after midnight Tuesday. The man and woman were forced into the basement while their three-year-old son slept upstairs. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Man threatened to kill boy: Court

18-year-old is charged with kidnapping, sexually assaulting victim in Brampton

An 18-year-old accused of kidnapping and sexually assaulting a nine-year-old Brampton boy also allegedly threatened to kill his victim, according to court records obtained by the Toronto Star.

The public documents also reveal that Lucas Tyler Petrini is alleged to have had a knife at the time he is accused of abducting the young boy on Monday as he walked to school.

The accused, who recently turned 18, remains in custody. A publication ban on evidence revealed in court was imposed during his brief court appearance yesterday. Peel police previously said the boy was held in a nearby home for six hours and repeatedly sexually assaulted before being released.

Petrini has been charged with kidnapping, uttering a death threat, assault, sexual assault, exposure to a person under 16, sexual interference, invitation to sexual touching and possession of a weapon.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CUPE courting TTC employees

Just as things were quieting down on the TTC labour front, another group of Toronto transit workers may be looking at joining a union.

In response to requests from some workers, the Canadian Union of Public Employees has sent letters and membership cards to about 285 uniformed TTC supervisors listing the benefits of joining.

The move comes about a month after city council narrowly rejected a call to ask the province to declare Toronto transit workers an essential service.

"CUPE will be holding information sessions in January and further information will be sent out shortly," says the letter from CUPE organizer Donna Felder.

The supervisors, who oversee operators and routes, earn about $70,000 to $75,000 a year, according to TTC chief general manager Gary Webster.

Union organizing among the TTC's non-unionized workforce isn't that unusual, he said, adding he became aware on Tuesday of communication between at least one employee and CUPE. But Webster said he could think of no reason why such a campaign would have more traction now than it would have had a year ago.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Certification

- For a union to be certified, 60 per cent of the workers have to sign a card, and then a 50 per-cent-plus-one majority has to vote in favour of the union, according to a CUPE spokesperson.

News in brief

SCARE A 53-year-old man was arrested and will face a mental health assessment after a bomb scare shut down a Durham Region medical centre for several hours Tuesday. Witnesses reported a man left the Glazier Medical Centre and returned shortly after with a package. Police later determined the package wasn't a bomb. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Weather **Strolling through the snow**

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A man walks through snow in Kensington Market yesterday. Forecasters predicted approximately 10 centimetres of the white stuff would fall overnight.

Oshawa councillor claims school's name

Just as the University of Ontario Institute of Technology in Oshawa looks for a new name, a city councillor claims he owns the current one.

Robert Lutczyk, who sits on both the Oshawa and Durham Region councils, registered a copyright for "University of Ontario Institute of Technology" in 2005 and has recently forbidden several newspapers from printing the phrase under threat of legal action.

He has also registered "Medical School in Oshawa" and "Medical School at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology," neither of which exist.

Lutczyk hasn't contacted the university about the copyright, says UOIT's president. Fellow councillors only recently learned of it. And Lutczyk himself isn't talking.

A spokesperson for Industry Canada said the copyright is a literary one, meaning it covers a work of art with that title, not the name itself. Beyond submitting a form and fee, applicants aren't required to provide further proof to obtain a copyright.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Witness saw Boxing Day gun battle

A man who fired multiple shots in the dispute that claimed the life of Jane Creba resembled, in some respects, the youth on trial for her death, a court was told.

David Tarnowski, a leasing agent forced to stop his car by pedestrians spilling onto Yonge Street in the late afternoon of Boxing Day 2005, testified yesterday that he saw a gunman wearing a white hat and something white on his chest, possibly a T-shirt.

The man on trial in the schoolgirl's death, who can be identified only as J.S.R., was arrested 25 minutes after the shooting with a white and blue baseball cap that had a Sixers logo on the front. He also wore an oversized white T-shirt, court has been told.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Plea

- J.S.R., now 20, has pleaded not guilty to second-degree murder in Creba's death and to six counts of attempted murder in the injuring of six others. The Crown alleges he is the man who fired south in a gun battle that claimed the 15-year-old schoolgirl's life.

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Teen faces robbery charges

Police have arrested a 16-year-old boy wanted in connection with a series of holdups in Toronto's west end. He faces robbery and disguise charges, plus three counts of failure or refusal to comply with the Youth Criminal Justice Act. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Changes in store for York courses

Strike forces university to examine various modifications, adjustments for students

All courses at York University — full year or half-year — will have to be adjusted in some way now that the strike by teaching and research staff has lasted 14 days, the University has said.

Under York's Senate policy, any disruption of classes that lasts 14 days means all classes will require "remediation, adjustments and/or modification," which a university spokesperson said could mean anything from shortened exam periods to changes in the number of assignments required for a course. The strike by Canadian Union of Public Employees 3903 began Nov. 6, prompting York to cancel classes for all its 50,000 students.

"Any changes to courses will be based on the principles of academic integrity, fairness to students and timely information — no one will say there's suddenly an exam tomorrow when class resumes," said York spokesperson Alex Bilyk.

"Any changes to courses will be based on the principles of academic integrity, fairness to students and timely information ..."
York spokesperson Alex Bilyk

"But there is ongoing discussion between the faculty deans and the vice-president academic about how these courses will be adjusted, and it very much depends on the length of time classes are cancelled."

All half-courses were affected after seven days of the strike by 3,340 teaching assistants, graduate assistants and contract faculty.

No talks are slated between the union and the university.

"This uncertainty is killing everyone," said kinesiology major Catherine Divaris, who helped organize a rally against the strike this week.

"The Senate policy also allows the university to cancel courses altogether if the strike goes 'to a point where no feasible remedy consistent with academic integrity is available' — oh my goodness, all my money would be lost," said Divaris, who is taking four courses and has applied to law school next year.

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Suspicious fires reported near Jane and Dundas streets

DAMAGE Police are investigating a series of suspicious fires in the area of Jane and Dundas streets Tuesday night and early yesterday morning, culminating in a blaze that destroyed a private garage and caused $125,000 worth of damage.

Same area

- Two years ago, police responded to reports of arson in the same area and made at least one arrest in the case. Anyone with information on the fires can contact police at 416-808-1100.

The first fire was reported on Colbeck Street at 11:52 p.m., where some garbage and a mattress on the street were set on fire.

Almost two hours later, on Magwood Crescent, near the Humber River, police and firefighters responded to a 1990 Honda Civic that had been completely gutted by flames. It appears someone had opened the unlocked vehicle and set a seat on fire.

Police reported that several piles of leaves had been ignited in the same area.

Around 3:25 a.m., emergency crews were called to a house on Humbercrest Boulevard where they found a garage on fire. Fifteen units responded to the house, including at least four fire trucks.

No one was injured in any of the fires.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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YAHOO! CANADA LIFESTYLE
Everything about life, updated every day.

How to choose your new 'do

Changing your hairstyle doesn't have to turn into a hair-raising experience – just make sure you follow a few simple styling rules.

When it's time for a new hairstyle, it's important for the cut and length to fit the shape of your face and your own personal style. Here are some tricks to finding the right 'do for you.

Those with round faces should keep their locks relatively long, mid-neck or longer, and height on top to lengthen the face. Fullness on the sides will have the opposite effect and make your face appear shorter.

As for long, slender faces, blunt (equal length) cuts can be very interesting. Try an ear-length haircut with more volume on the sides to make your face look fuller. Bangs will shorten the length of your face and add an element of softness.

(continued online...)

To read more, visit lifestyle.yahoo.ca

Man charged in strangulation

Toronto police have charged a 23-year-old man with second-degree murder after determining Tuesday a woman who died in August was strangled.

When police responded to a medical emergency on Vanauley Walk, near Dundas Street West and Spadina Avenue, on Aug. 28, there were no signs of foul play.

But an autopsy determined the victim, identified as Tahmina Yeasmin, 23, died from "ligature neck compression," or strangulation, police said.

Yeasmin's death was ruled a homicide and a warrant was issued for the arrest of Mizan Ahmed.

Ahmed was arrested for second-degree murder in London, Ont., yesterday.

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*Includes all taxes and freight. Prizes may not be exactly as shown.

Drugs, weapons and cash seized in capital

Two Ottawa men face trafficking charges and more than 50 students were either suspended or expelled following an undercover investigation near several high schools that yielded marijuana, ecstasy, weapons and cash. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada

Seal hunt will go on

Canada's new fisheries minister says she supports the commercial sealing industry and doesn't expect any major changes for next year's commercial hunt, despite a European Union proposal that threatens to ban seal products as early as 2009.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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No quick solution for auto industry

It's unlikely there will be support measures for the auto industry in next week's fiscal update, even though the Big Three automakers say they are running out of time, federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty has warned.

Flaherty has warned not to expect anything for Canada's troubled auto industry in next week's fiscal update even though the Big Three automakers say they are running out of time.

"I wouldn't expect anything that quickly. This is a major issue, lots of discussions going on. We're doing a fair amount of work on it," Flaherty told reporters after the release of yesterday's throne speech.

> **"There's something else we need to grab hold of here. We're going to end up with a smaller auto sector in the province of Ontario."**
> Premier Dalton McGuinty

Premier Dalton McGuinty predicted yesterday there are going to be fewer jobs in the auto industry, regardless of whether the automakers get the aid they seek.

"There's something else we need to grab hold of here. We're going to end up with a smaller auto sector in the province of Ontario," McGuinty told reporters. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Admission of murder a lie, lawyers argue

CRIME Romeo Phillion, now 69, was convicted in 1972 of second-degree murder in the stabbing death of Ottawa firefighter Leopold Roy in 1967 based entirely on the statement he gave to police — a confession he immediately recanted.

But he was a suicidal, inveterate liar whose admission of guilt cannot be believed, Ontario's highest court heard yesterday.

The argument by Romeo Phillion's lawyers, however, ran headlong into the skepticism of the presiding justices, who noted his detailed confession was almost entirely correct factually. The Court of Appeal is considering, at the federal government's request, whether the conviction of Phillion, in jail for the last 31 years, was a miscarriage of justice. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Neighbours coming north more often: StatsCan
The number of visitors to Canada rose 2.1 per cent in September due to an increase in overnight travel from the United States. Statistics Canada says overnight travel from the United States rose 7.2 per cent to a million trips in September. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lead levels drop, but infants ignored

Lead levels in most Canadians have dropped dramatically but federal officials have no idea if the toxic metal is in young children.

The number of Canadians with potentially dangerous levels of lead in their blood has dropped from 25 per cent in 1978 — the last time lead was measured nationally — to less than one per cent.

It's not surprising, considering that 30 years ago lead was abundant in our gasoline, paint and solder in food cans.

The preliminary data, released yesterday, offers a glimpse into an ongoing Statistics Canada national health survey.

But the survey is not measuring lead in the blood of those some experts consider to be the most vulnerable to exposure to the toxic metal — children under the age of six.

Young kids are consistently exposed to lead in toys and costume jewelry. A recent Toronto Star investigation found dangerously high levels of lead in a troubling list of items, from a baby pacifier to a jewelry kit billed as "lead free" to an iconic stuffed animal dressed as a Mountie.

"I don't know why Stats Can chose ages six and up," said Barbara McElgunn, health policy adviser for The Learning Disabilities Association of Canada.

"Very young children are the most at risk... They're creeping and crawling around... and that's when they're going to pick up more lead."
Barbara McElgunn

"Very young children are the most at risk. They're living close to the ground.

"They're creeping and crawling around and putting things in their mouths and that's when they're going to pick up more lead."

Survey director Jeanine Bustros says the fact that young children were not surveyed is a reflection of trying to set limits on what is an expensive and time-consuming undertaking.

Sources of lead exposure include lead-based paint in old homes, lead plumbing, food grown in lead-contaminated soil and products that contain lead.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Harper vows climate action

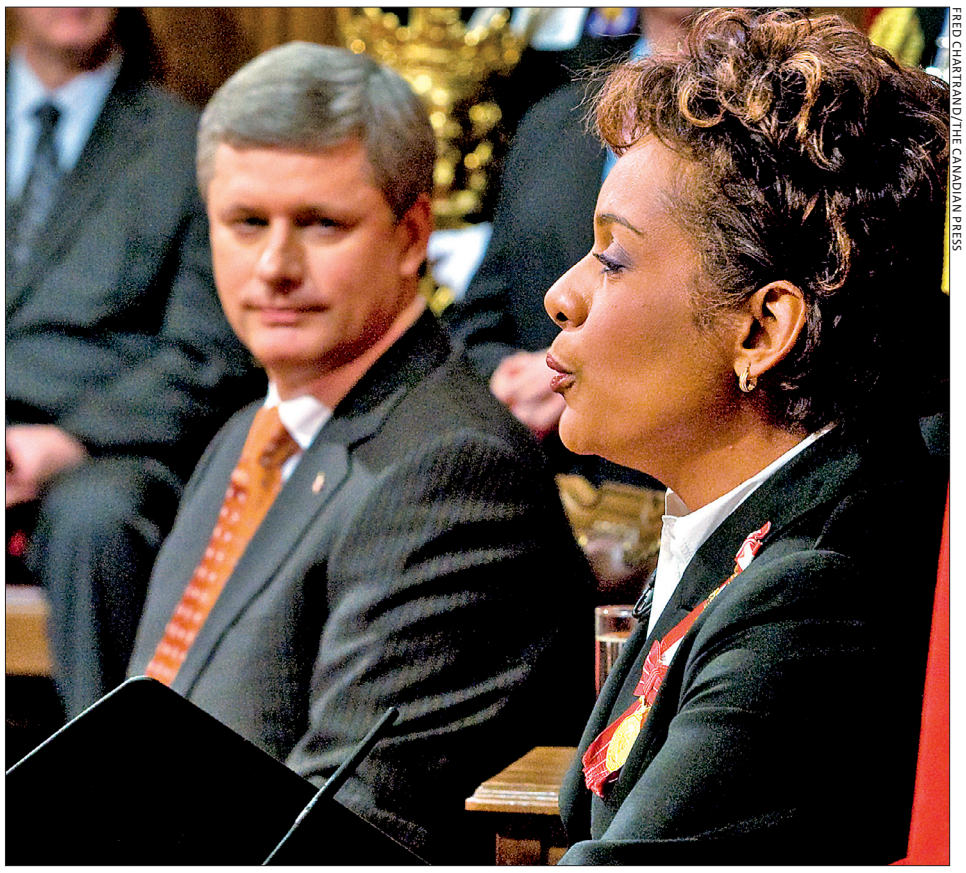
PM promises to cap heavy industry polluters

The Conservative government has formally pledged to work toward a North American-wide climate change plan to cut greenhouse gas emissions and reward industrial polluters who meet their targets.

It will pursue a carbon "cap-and-trade" system with the United States, and Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced his government would reduce "regulatory and other barriers" to natural gas pipelines in the North, boost nuclear energy projects, and support "cleaner energy supplies."

The government repeated its commitment to reduce Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 20 per cent of 2005 levels by 2020 — a target it hopes to achieve while still allowing overall energy production to grow.

Under a cap-and-trade system, government sets a total limit on carbon emissions as well as a cap for each major polluting industry. Industries below their cap can sell emission permits to those that exceed their limit. The intent is to encourage efficiency and conservation by rewarding industries that get below the cap and adding costs to high polluters.


FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS
Prime Minister Stephen Harper watches as Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean reads the throne speech in Ottawa yesterday.

According to the speech from the throne, read by Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean, Harper is turning his energy sights on the North.

"The natural gas that lies beneath Canada's North represents both an untapped source of clean fuel and an unequalled avenue to creating economic opportunities for northern people."

However, Sierra Club Canada said the blueprint laid out by the government "failed to move Canada toward a green energy economy, instead propping up obsolete and expensive options.

"Canada risks being left behind in the global green economy," said Stephen Hazell, Sierra Club's executive director.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Dumont's wife steps in to help

ELECTION The wife of Action democratique du Quebec Leader Mario Dumont is playing a more prominent role in a bid to help his flagging campaign for Quebec leadership. He may need the help, as his poll numbers for the ADQ are in the cellar. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pharmacists about to have more medical freedom

HEALTH Ontario pharmacists should soon be able to write and fill prescriptions for minor ailments without need of a doctor's order, a report released this week by the provincial health ministry suggests.

As well, your local pharmacy could become your first stop for prescription extensions.

Drug adjustments and medication monitoring through pharmacist-ordered lab tests, the Health Professions Regulatory Advisory Council has recommended.

Perhaps the most intriguing of these is the potential it opens for pharmacists to dispense schedule one — or prescription — drugs for some minor ailments, without a doctor's say so.

Dennis Darby, head of the Ontario Pharmacists' Association, said this means pharmacists could give medication for things like dermatitis, poison ivy, or pink eye without a prescription.

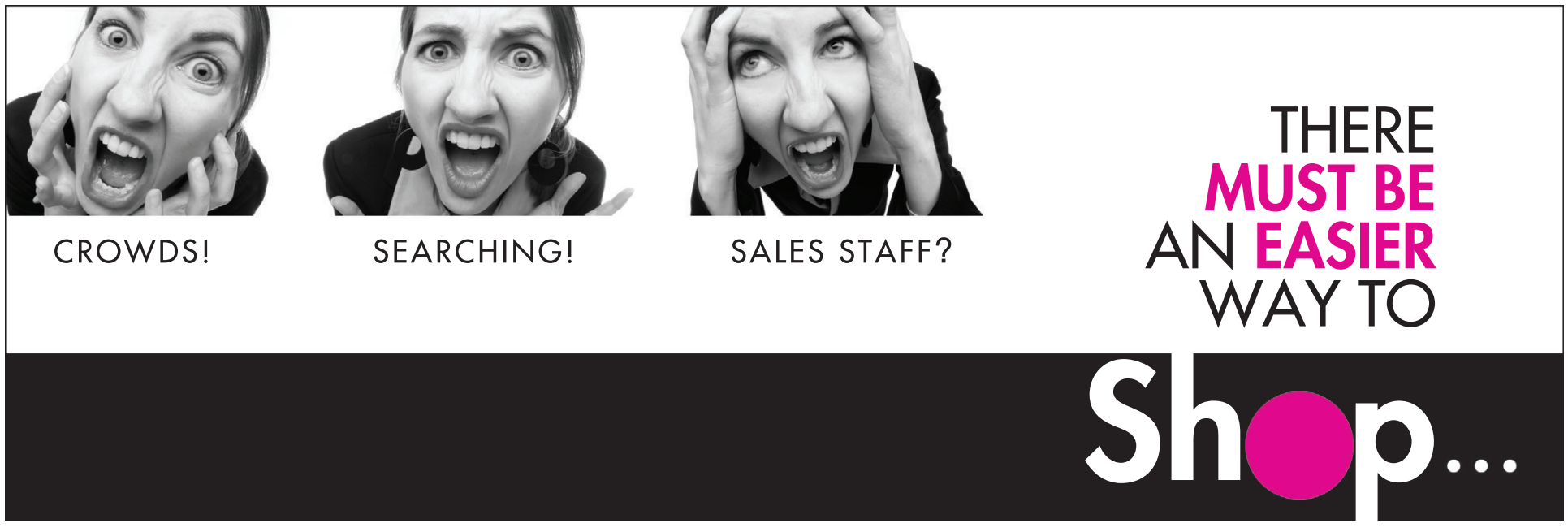
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

PROTEST Algonquin activists say police have dismantled three blockades they erected on a western Quebec highway in what they described as a protest to get governments to respect treaty agreements. A spokesman for the Barriere Lake community says that after protesters set up a blockade around 7 a.m. yesterday, they were quickly confronted by as many as 50 provincial police officers toting pepper spray.

MONEY Alberta should save billions of dollars more while it still has gushing energy royalties or face the prospect of major tax increases, a new report warns. The study recommends pouring all savings into the Heritage Savings Trust Fund.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



No single person responsible for death: Hospital
No one will be punished for the death of a Winnipeg homeless man during a 34-hour wait in an ER, the hospital said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flight attendant helped land jet after mid-flight incident

A flight attendant helped land an Air Canada jetliner carrying 146 passengers after the co-pilot suffered an apparent breakdown over the Atlantic, says an official report into the incident.

A report released yesterday by Ireland's Air Accident Investigation Unit said the flight attendant, who had a commercial pilot's licence, was able to provide "useful assistance" to the plane's captain as he guided the Boeing 767 down onto a runway at Shannon Airport earlier this year.

The final report provides the first glimpse into what transpired inside the cockpit during the unsettling incident on Jan. 28 during an Air Canada flight from Toronto's Pearson International Airport to London.

The plane declared a medical emergency midway over the Atlantic and requested a landing at Ireland's Shannon Airport after the co-pilot began acting erratically. The crew later removed him from the cockpit to the shock of passengers who were alerted by the commotion at the front of the plane.

After the plane landed safely, passengers interviewed by the Star said they saw the co-pilot being escorted off the plane with his eyes closed and hands and feet bound.

Barry Wiszniowski, chair of the Air Canada Pilots Association's technical and safety division, said the flight attendant's pilot training, although insufficient to fly a 767, would have enabled her to understand and operate the plane's radio and provide assistance to the captain as needed.

"She would have had the general skills to assist the captain to get the aircraft safely on the ground."

He said, however, the captain would have been able to land the plane safely had the flight attendant not been aboard.

The report by Irish authorities claims the plane's captain first noticed something was amiss when the co-pilot showed up late for the flight in Toronto and appeared "quite harried."

Passengers interviewed after the incident said they could hear the co-pilot yelling from the first row of the economy class section.

The co-pilot spent 11 days in hospital in Shannon before being flown home to Canada to receive further care, according to investigators. He has not returned to work, according to Air Canada.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

As it happened...

- At take-off: the co-pilot began exhibiting strange behaviour and complained of being "very tired."
- About midway into the flight: the co-pilot became "belligerent and unco-operative."
- The captain then decided to have the co-pilot removed from the cockpit with the assistance of flight attendants, one of whom suffered an injured wrist during the scuffle.

Iraqi soldiers find remains of 8 people in Shiite area of Baghdad
The U.S. military says the remains of at least eight people have been unearthed in a mass grave in a mainly Shiite area in Baghdad. The military says Iraqi soldiers acting on a tip found the remains Monday in an unmarked grave. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Israel to boycott UN conference

Israel's Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni says the government will boycott a United Nations conference on human rights next year. She says the World Conference Against Racism is biased against Israel and is little more than a forum that aims to delegitimize the Jewish state. The meeting is scheduled to take place next April in Geneva. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India **Arrests made in nun's death**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Catholic priest Jose Puthrikayil is brought to a court after being arrested in India yesterday. Two priests and a nun were arrested for the 1992 murder of a nun whose body was found in a convent in Kerala, according to news reports.

Clinton aiding wife's secretary of state bid

Former U.S. president Bill Clinton has offered several concessions to help Senator Hillary Clinton, his wife, become secretary of state, people familiar with president-elect Barack Obama's transition vetting process said yesterday.

Clinton has agreed to release the names of several major donors to his charitable foundation and will submit future foundation activities and paid speeches to a strict ethics review, said Democrats knowledgeable about the discussions.

They also said Clinton would step away from day-to-day responsibility for his foundation while his wife serves and would alert the State Department to any new sources of income and to his speechmaking.

Since Hillary Clinton has emerged as a top contender for the job, her husband's international business deals and the fundraising he has done for his foundation and presidential library have come under careful review by Obama's transition team.

The former president had indicated earlier that he would be willing to significantly increase the transparency of those activities if it would boost the former first lady's chances of getting the post.

Hillary Clinton still carries a substantial debt from her presidential campaign, and if she were to become secretary of state, she would face restrictions on her ability to retire it. As of Oct. 1, she owed nearly $8 million US to campaign vendors.

Clinton could name an agent from her campaign committee to continue to organize and hold fundraising events to retire the debt.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Smooth sailing

- Aides familiar with negotiations said they have gone smoothly and both Clintons had been fully co-operative with the process.

Obama blasted in al Qaeda video

INTERNET Al Qaeda's No. 2 leader insulted Barack Obama in a message posted on the Internet yesterday, describing the U.S. president-elect in demeaning terms that imply he does the bidding of whites.

Ayman al-Zawahri's message appeared mainly aimed at persuading Muslims and Arabs that Obama does not represent a change in U.S. policies.

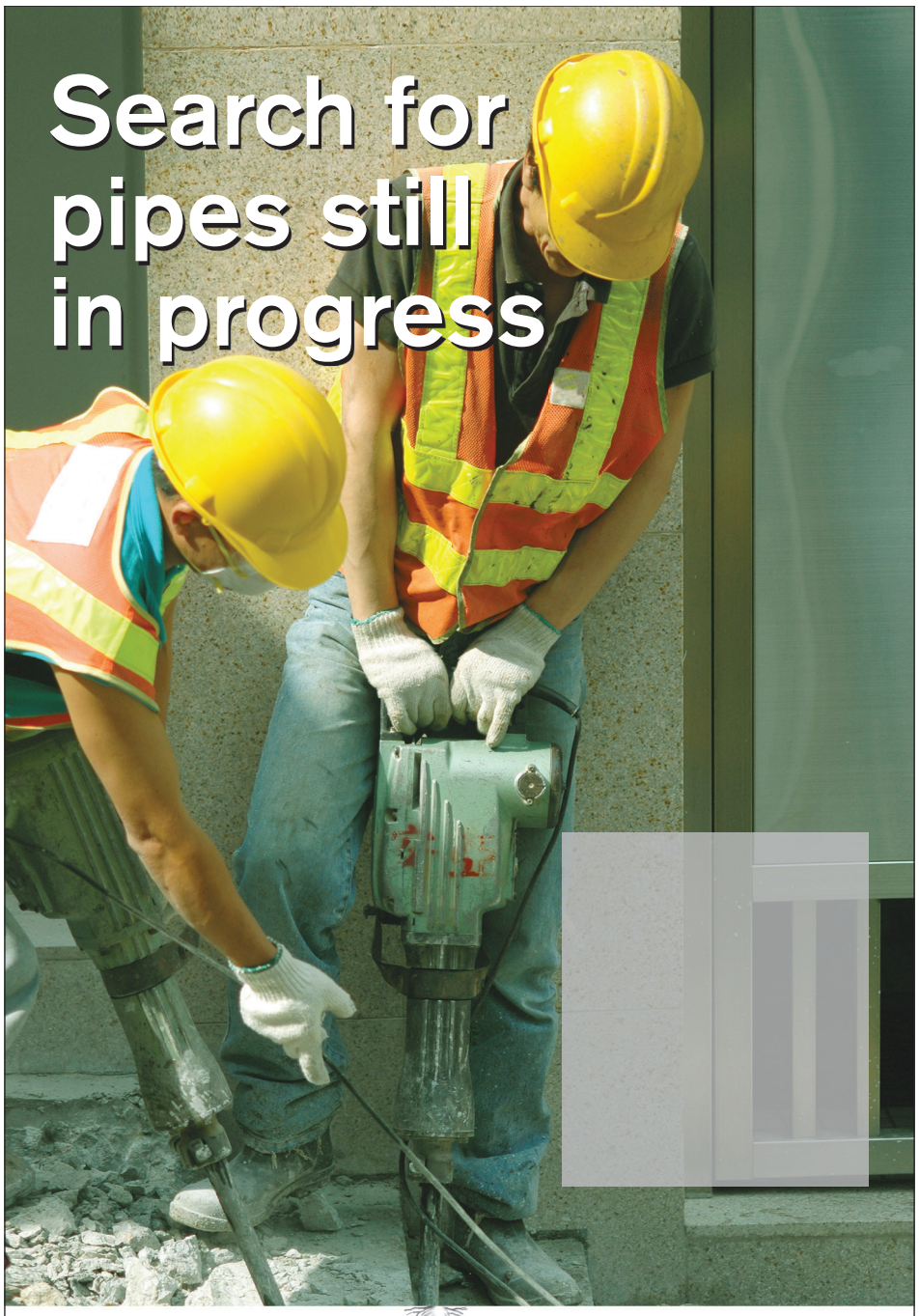
He said in the message that Obama is "the direct opposite of honourable black Americans" like Malcolm X, the 1960s African-American rights leader.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

UN The United Nations asked yesterday for $7 billion US to fund its humanitarian work around the world in 2009.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



12 world

Soldier fined for leaving military data in public computer
A Swedish soldier has been convicted and fined for leaving a USB memory stick with military secrets in a public computer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pirates driving Somali boomtowns

AFRICA Somalia's increasingly brazen pirates are building sprawling stone houses, cruising in luxury cars, marrying beautiful women — even hiring caterers to prepare western-style food for their hostages.

And in an impoverished country where every public institution has crumbled, they have become heroes in the steamy coastal dens they operate from because they are the only real business in town.

In northern coastal towns like Haradhere, Eyl and Bossaso, the pirate economy is thriving thanks to the money pouring in from pirate ransoms that have reached $37 million this year alone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Indian forces sink pirate ship

The Indian navy sank a suspected pirate "mother ship" and chased two attack boats into the night, officials said yesterday.

A multinational naval force has increased patrols in the waters between the Arabian peninsula and the Horn of Africa, where pirates have grown bolder and more violent — most recently seizing Thai and Iranian ships.

The force scored a rare success Tuesday when the Indian warship, operating off the coast of Oman, stopped a ship similar to a pirate vessel described in bulletins.

The Indian navy said the pirates in the Gulf of Aden fired on the INS Tabar after the officers asked to search it. Indian forces fired back, sparking fires and blasts and destroying the ship.

One of the two speedboats shadowing the larger ship was later found abandoned. The other escaped, according to the Indian navy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mother ships

- Larger "mother ships" are often used to take gangs of pirates and smaller attack boats into deep water, and can be used as mobile bases to attack merchant vessels.

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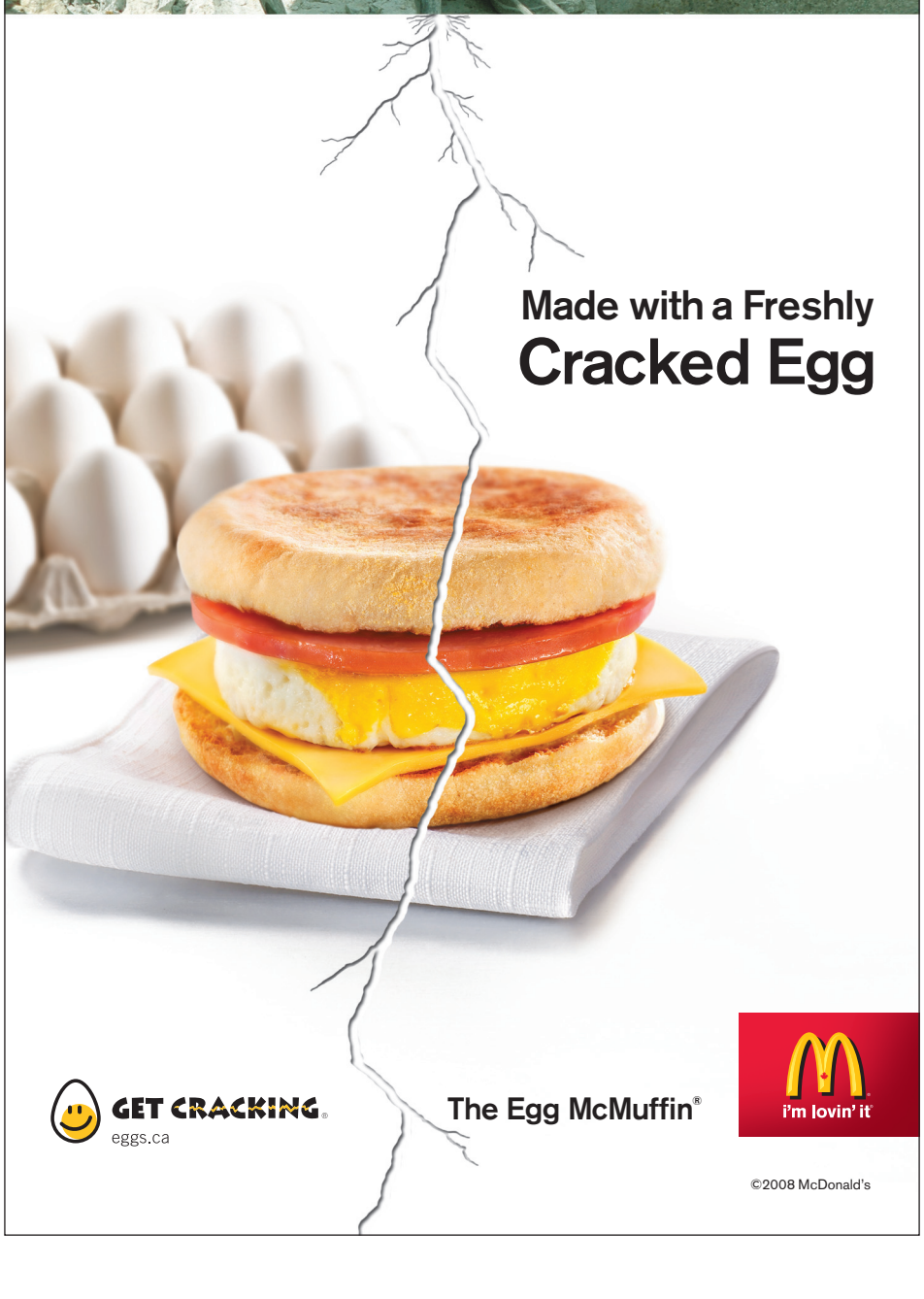

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New Zealand scientists find previously unknown species of penguin

Researchers studying a rare and endangered species of penguin have uncovered a previously unknown species that disappeared about 500 years ago. The research suggests that the first humans in New Zealand hunted the newly-found Waitaha penguin to extinction by 1500, about 250 years after their arrival on the islands. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

FINANCIAL AID Chinese President Hu Jintao has promised Cuba at least $78 million US in donations, credit and hurricane relief. Cuba has already borrowed extensively from China and it is unclear if Beijing ever expects to be paid back.

EXECUTION Ohio has executed a man for the 1992 stabbing death of a collectibles store owner in Toledo. Gregory Bryant-Bey died by lethal injection at 10:41 a.m. at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville yesterday. The 53-year-old's execution proceeded after the U.S. Supreme Court denied his request for a 60-day reprieve. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Britain tackles prostitution

The British government announced plans yesterday to "name and shame" people who visit prostitutes and make it illegal to pay for sex with women forced into prostitution — measures that sex workers say will put more women at risk.

People who pay for sex with a prostitute "controlled for another person's gain" could face criminal charges and a fine of £1,000, or about $1,850 US.

The crime would be a "strict liability offence," which means men would be held accountable even if they didn't know a woman had been trafficked or was working for a pimp.

"What this will ultimately do is drive the sex trade further underground and put the focus on criminalizing clients that, for the most part, women aren't complaining about."
Cari Mitchell

"What I disapprove of is women being exploited in this country, coerced, trafficked into the country, effectively treated as slaves," Home Secretary Jacqui Smith told British Broadcasting Corp. radio yesterday.

The government also planned to hold lap-dancing clubs to the same licensing requirements as sex shops and sex cinemas. The clubs are currently regulated like pubs.

Smith said the measures — which would need to be approved by legislators — are aimed at lessening the demand for paid sex and to cut down on human trafficking.

"This is a very dangerous moral crusade," Cari Mitchell, spokeswoman for the English Collective of Prostitutes, said yesterday.

"What this will ultimately do is drive the sex trade further underground and put the focus on criminalizing clients that, for the most part, women aren't complaining about."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iran investigation deadlocked: IAEA

NUCLEAR The United Nations nuclear agency says its investigation into Iran's alleged nuclear weapons program is deadlocked.

It also reports that a Syrian site bombed by Israel had the characteristics of a nuclear reactor.

The conclusions are contained in twin reports presented yesterday by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The confidential documents are being shared with the 35 countries on the IAEA board and the UN Security Council. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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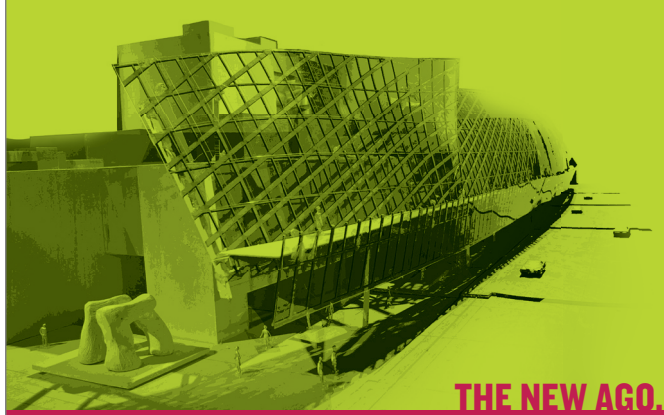

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Comment & Views

Comment

Hillary hazard ahead

Obama better off without Clinton in cabinet

Home&Abroad

Andrew Cohen

Canada & world insight

Hillary Rodham Clinton for Secretary of State of the United States of America?

If the reports are correct, Barack Obama is preparing to name Clinton, the most popular woman in the country, to the most senior position in his cabinet.

But if Obama has decided to appoint Clinton, he should reconsider. And if Clinton has decided to accept, she should reconsider. For both, the appointment would be a mistake.

If Obama really wanted Clinton in his White House, he could have made her his vice-president last August. He did not choose her because they had no personal chemistry and because she would have contradicted his mantra of change. She is the Washington insider; he is not.

Many thought Obama was wrong. They said that because Clinton had won 18 million votes in the primaries and caucuses — almost as many as he did — he had to appoint her as VP or risk alienating fellow Democrats.

They warned that rejecting her would drive her loyalists into the arms of John McCain. That fear was groundless — her supporters were never going to vote for the Republican ticket, especially one that included the anti-feminist Sarah Palin.

Obama decided to break with the Clintons, who have dominated the Democratic party since 1992. He did not need her or her husband, who diminished himself in her campaign. It was a wise decision, though when Palin joined McCain and gave the Republicans a momentary surge in September, some Nervous Nellies worried that Obama had erred in choosing Joe Biden. He didn't.

"If Obama and Hillary were to fall out on a matter of policy, he couldn't fire her. It would rupture the party."

So why choose her now? No doubt she is competent, compelling and the best known woman in America. She has impeccable credentials.

But her appointment wouldn't set a precedent — there has been a woman, indeed a black woman, leading the Department of State for the last four years — and Clinton would steal Obama's thunder. Moreover, her husband and his mysterious business interests could be trouble.

Worse, if Obama and Hillary were to fall out on a matter of policy, he couldn't fire her. It would rupture the party.

And why would she take the job? She would have to resign her seat in the Senate and give up leadership on health care and other social issues that motivate her. She would miss the opportunity to replace the ailing Edward Kennedy as the country's great liberal lion.

Obama should choose someone else for Foggy Bottom. Hillary Clinton brings more dangers than benefits.

Andrew Cohen, a professor and journalist, is the author of Extraordinary Canadians: Lester B. Pearson.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Former child soldiers reach out to victims

Susan McClelland

Kabba Williams sits quietly, his hands folded in his lap. The 24-year-old's wide smile belies the horrors he has inflicted on others and of which he is also a victim. Sitting beside Williams is Mariatu Kamara, now a 22-year-old college student in Toronto. Kamara is an all too emotional reminder for Williams of his past. She was only 12 in 1999 when rebels in Sierra Leone's 11-year-long civil war invaded her village. Child soldiers held the young girl hostage for nearly a day and then amputated her hands before setting her free.

"I did this," Williams, looking briefly at Kamara, told the audience at the University of Alberta last week. "I did terrible things. Rape, murder, cutting off people's hands."

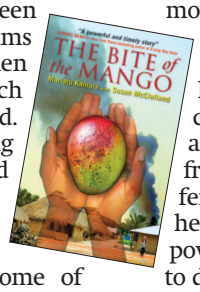
Williams was not the child combatant that tortured Kamara. But for nearly three years, Williams was a boy soldier — in fact, he's one of the youngest child soldiers ever recruited in an African conflict, having been abducted by rebel forces at the start of the Sierra Leone war in 1991 when he was only six years old.

Last week at the University of Alberta's Festival of Ideas, Kamara and Williams, now an outspoken human rights advocate in Sierra Leone who speaks on the use and victimization of child soldiers, came together for the first time.

"It was scary at first," says Kamara, whose memoir The Bite of the Mango, which I wrote, was released last month. "But what can I do to him … to the boys who did this to me? My hatred toward them is only hurting me, so I have to forgive."

Mariatu Kamara

I have been involved now with the Sierra Leoneon community for several years. I am struck by their inherent ability to tell their stories, hold one another and build community. I was by far more nervous of the meeting between Kamara and Williams than they were. When they first saw each other, they embraced. To anyone looking on, they appeared like old friends.



But they're not. Sierra Leone saw children commit some of the worst atrocities in the war that ended in 2002. Tens of thousands of young people were killed, maimed, raped and recruited by various rebel groups, including the Revolutionary United Front. Worldwide, the UN estimates that there are about 250,000 to 300,000 child soldiers at any given time.

Williams has been very active in Sierra Leone's peace building process. His newest project involves former child soldiers reaching out to the villages in Sierra Leone. "It would be an apology, a way we can say we take responsibility for what we did, and how do we move forward together," says Williams.

"It will be challenging," Kamara concludes. "There are many amputees from the war still suffering with their health and with poverty. But we need to do whatever it takes to make sure war doesn't happen again."

Susan McClelland is an award-winning magazine journalist based in Toronto. The Bite of the Mango, her first book, has been nominated for an American Library Association, young adult, non-fiction book of the year.

Letters

Shahnaz Azarbehi, TORONTO

I have been a Liberal supporter for the more than 25 years but have stopped voting since the last two elections because of sheer fatigue.

Look at all our parties and their candidates — an old-boys' league. We need new blood, new ideas, fresh perspective, charisma. Someone we would be proud of, to represent us both nationally and internationally.

Michael Ignatieff is going to do no magic — the man reeks of high-class arrogance. And why is Bob Rae even being considered after what he did to Ontario when he was NDP. With one of these two heading the Liberal party, I know I will not be voting for a long, long time.

Bryan Heal, TORONTO

Re: Probe links youth violence to mental health neglect, Nov. 14.

The links between mental health and violence have long been raised by clinical and social scientists, youth agencies, and community advocates.

In raising the profile of the cause, we hope the recommendations of McMurtry Curling to address the roots of youth violence are adopted so that real action is finally seen in communities at risk.

In a new approach, any provincial reorganization should consider a revised definition of "youth" so that young people transitioning from the childhood to adult mental health system no longer lose proven crime and homeless-prevention services simply because they have turned 18 and no longer qualify.

The "Roots of Youth Violence" is an excellent study with serious recommendations. The time is now for those involved to demand real action from the premier, and not allow this to be another report that ends up sitting in a library.

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Investors reduce holdings of foreign securities

Canadian investors reduced their overall holdings of foreign securities by $665 million in September, due to further sales of foreign bonds. Non-resident investors followed a similar pattern and reduced their holdings of Canadian securities by $267 million. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Analysts predict bank job cuts

BANKING Canadian banks are poised to follow their U.S. peers by announcing job cuts when they report "bleak" fourth-quarter results starting next week, predict some analysts.

With the financial crisis now threatening to trigger a global recession, Canadian banks are bracing for steeper productivity declines and slowdowns in their lending and capital markets activities.

Bank stocks took a beating yesterday amid fears of more big writedowns.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ghost resort **Woes hit Caribbean tourism**

DAVIS HINDS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Construction at the multimillion-dollar Ritz-Carlton Molasses Reef resort, above, in the Turks and Caicos Islands remains paralyzed after Chinese workers revolted last month to demand back wages. Work at the Cap Cana luxury resort is also paralyzed after Lehman Brothers declared bankruptcy and a $250-million US loan fell through. These are among growing signs that the Caribbean, hit by the global financial crisis, is headed for tough times as construction workers and resort employees are laid off by the hundreds and peak season bookings are at a trickle.

Global crisis creeps closer

Bank likely to cut interest rate

In a sign the global credit crisis is seeping across Canada's borders, Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney warned yesterday that the country "has been importantly affected by global events" and hinted that another interest rate cut may be in the offing.

Carney emphasized in a speech in London, England, that Canada is weathering the storm better than most major economies. But around the world, some economists and policy-makers are now anxiously considering another worrisome prospect: A deflationary spiral — an ongoing fall in the general level of prices — that could make recovery even more difficult.

Interest rates

- The Bank of Canada is next scheduled to consider its key overnight rate, which currently sits at 2.25 per cent, on Dec. 9.

Those concerns were heightened yesterday by a report that showed U.S. consumer prices plummeted by 1 per cent in October, the biggest one-month decline since record keeping started. The drop was driven by a 60 per cent fall in oil prices since its peak in mid-July. But core consumer prices also fell by 0.1 per cent last month, showing broader price declines. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Business in brief

SLOWDOWN Toyota Motor Corp. said it will stop production at all its plants in the U.S. and Canada for two extra days in addition to the regular Christmas holidays and cut half of the 500 temporary workers at a plant in Georgetown, Ky., by March. There was no word of significant moves at Toyota's two Canadian plants in Cambridge, Ont., and a new one in Woodstock, Ont.

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(Hybrid shown)

Pontiac Vibe
2009 AJAC Award – Best new small car over $18,000

Chevrolet Malibu
2008 North American Car of the Year
(Hybrid shown)

*Awarded by North American International Auto shows. 1. Chevrolet Tahoe Hybrid named 2008 Green Car of the Year by Green Car Journal editors. **2008 Best New Small Car awarded to Saturn Astra. 2009 Best New Small Car over $18,000 awarded to Pontiac Vibe. †Based on GM Testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada Test methods. Your actual fuel consumption my vary.

U.S. home construction sinks to record low

Construction of new homes in the United States plunged last month to the lowest level on records going back nearly 50 years as U.S. builders slashed production. The now embattled homebuilders had enjoyed a five-year boom. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Downtown core resales hit hardest

HOUSING The Toronto real estate market is seeing its worst resale numbers since the 1990s — a direct result of Bay Street jitters.

Figures by the Toronto Real Estate Board show 1,991 houses sold in the greater Toronto region during the first 15 days of November, down almost 50 per cent from the 3,544 that sold last year.

The hardest hit is the downtown core, where 830 homes have changed hands since Nov. 1. Last year, that figure was 1,643.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lure of smartphones

Canadian like the devices, not pricey plans

Canadians are gravitating to full-featured wireless devices such as the BlackBerry and iPhone, but are reluctant to sign up for the pricey monthly data plans that accompany them.

A recent survey of 15,000 Canadian wireless users by J.D. Power and Associates found 25 per cent of respondents currently own a smartphone and 65 per cent customers indicated they were keen on making a smartphone their next device. All-in-one devices were in the spotlight this year with the Canadian release of Apple's iPhone and Research In Motion's BlackBerry Bold.

But the survey also found the majority of respondents didn't foresee themselves subscribing to monthly data plans that permit activities such as web browsing or downloads, with one-third citing cost as the main reason.

The rising interest among Canadians in smartphones mirrors global findings that point to the category as a huge growth area for the mobile-phone industry.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Business in brief

TELEVISION CTV Inc. is planning to lay off some employees, freeze hiring and cut spending to cope with "sharp decreases" in advertising as the industry braces for a deep slump. The decision comes after rival Canwest Global Communications said last week it was cutting 560 jobs, including 210 at TV operations.

HOLIDAY CHEER Supermarket operator Metro Inc. said it expects to ring in a stronger holiday shopping season as intense competition in Ontario has abated from last year. Canada's third-largest supermarket chain said it's well-positioned to compete with discount and conventional store banners in Quebec and Ontario. Quarterly profits soared 25.5 per cent to $72.3 million from year-ago earnings that were reduced by the integration of A&P stores.

ENERGY Oil slipped below $54 US a barrel yesterday to settle at $53.62 a barrel — about where prices were in January 2007. Fred Rozell, retail pricing director at the Oil Price Information Service, said investors were selling off in a "herd mentality," much as they crowded into the market over the summer.

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New Mariners manager makes history
Don Wakamatsu became the first Asian-American manager in Major League Baseball history when he was hired yesterday by the Seattle Mariners. Wakamatsu was bench coach for the Oakland Athletics last season. Before that he spent five years with the Texas Rangers. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Coco is K.C. bound

The Boston Red Sox traded outfielder Coco Crisp to the Kansas City Royals yesterday for relief pitcher Ramon Ramirez. Crisp stole 20 bases for the third straight season in 2008 and hit .417 in the post-season for Boston. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Quarterback club

The two head coaches who will meet in this Sunday's Grey Cup game, Calgary's John Hufnagel and Montreal's Marc Trestman, earned their coaching stripes in the NFL under the title of either quarterback coach or offensive co-ordinator. Here's a few of their former QB students:

John Hufnagel

- 2001: Indianapolis Colts, **Peyton Manning**
- 2002: Jacksonville Jaguars, **Mark Brunell**
- 2003: New England Patriots, **Tom Brady**
- 2004-06: New York Giants, **Eli Manning**

Marc Trestman

- 1989: Cleveland Browns, **Bernie Kosar**
- 1995: San Francisco 49ers, **Steve Young**
- 2002: Oakland Raiders, **Rich Gannon**

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The bigger picture

Record aside, there's no doubt U of T quarterback is a winner

David Hamilton chuckles when reminded of the time that some of his muscular football teammates at the University of Toronto got together for a shirtless charity calendar photo.

Not that he's scrawny, but the 6-foot-1, 185-pound Hamilton wasn't included. But Hamilton stands out in many other ways. A 22-year old graduating quarterback, having played his last competitive football game, his attention is now focused on medical school. On the field, Hamilton helped U of T snap a Canadian record 49-game losing streak with an 18-17 season-opening Labour Day win over Waterloo. Although he only won two games in five years with U of T, his 2,139 yards through the air this season made him just the second player in school history to throw for more than 2,000 yards. But it's what Hamilton does with his spare time that brings him happiness the most. Hamilton has devoted extensive time to volunteer work in the pediatric ward at Toronto East General Hospital. He also helps out at the Evergreen Youth Shelter and is the Blues top fundraiser for Athletes in Africa. When he's not in class or at practice, Hamilton makes a habit of visiting the hospital weekly to either play video games with youngsters or speak with family members about upcoming surgery. "I'm not a pro athlete, and a 10-year-old doesn't know the difference," said Hamilton. "I remember this kid from Bangladesh, he was in Grade 7 and was in the hospital for a stomach operation. His mother had died recently. He loved cricket, didn't know much about football, but I could see how much my visit meant to him." Hamilton is the OUA nominee for the Russ Jackson award, a citation exemplifying the attributes of academics, athletics and community service. If Hamilton wins, and he has all the qualities to be singled out, he would be the first U of T player to receive the award since it began in 1986.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

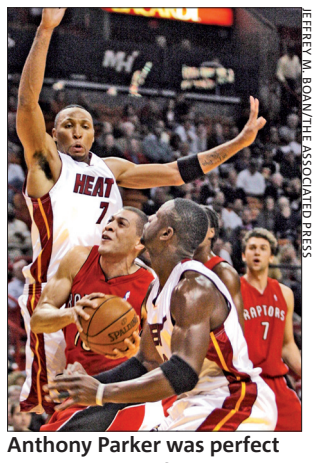
NBA RESULT

Raptors 101 **Heat** 95

THE SKINNY: Andrea Bargnani scored a season-high 25 points, Jermaine O'Neal finished with 16 points and 17 rebounds, and the Toronto Raptors overcame a huge night by Dwyane Wade to beat the Heat in Miami last night.

JOSE BACK: Jose Calderon returned to the starting lineup after a two-game absence, playing 32 minutes and chipping in eight points and seven assists.

HOT FROM 3: Toronto went 6-for-6 from 3-point range in the third quarter, outscoring Miami 13-2 during one stretch in that period. Anthony Parker was a perfect 5-for-5 from beyond the arc in the game, finishing with 19 points.



JEFFREY M. BOAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anthony Parker was perfect behind the arc, finishing with 19 points.

THE D-WADE FACTOR: Singlehandedly trying to beat in Toronto, Wade put up 30 shots in the game, hitting over 50 per cent with 40 points and 11 dimes.

WELCOME BACK VINCE: The Raptors host Vince Carter and the New Jersey Nets at the ACC Friday night.

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22 sports

Fisher, Neil out for Senators
Ottawa has lost Mike Fisher and Chris Neil for at least a few weeks to right knee injuries.

Appointing the 'C'

TheHockeyNews

The saga of Mats Sundin will likely heat up in the next few weeks as the former captain and marquee star of the Toronto Maple Leafs ultimately decides whether to return to hockey or retire and where to play if he does come back.

The myriad possibilities present have already been combed over ad nauseum in the Toronto media, so, long story short — if he just wants to play a bit more, he could rejoin the Leafs.

More likely, however, the reason to return is a shot at the Stanley Cup, which narrows the list down considerably and excludes Toronto.

But this being a Leafs column, let's get back to that plucky bunch actually wearing the Blue and White right now, the group that sends fan spirit soaring one night before crashing the next.

Perhaps part of the schizophrenia has to do with the lack of a team captain right now. In an interesting and slightly unsettling trend, a host of NHL teams no longer have a traditional captain, either foregoing the 'C' altogether or giving it to a different player each month, the latter being an utterly pointless and redundant exercise in my opinion. Now the Leafs certainly have candidates, but certain players stick out in my mind.

Right now, Matt Stajan is looking like a good option. Not only has he embraced the spirit of Ron Wilson's coaching, which has put the now first-line centre on pace for his best offensive season ever, but the pivot is also a smart cookie off the ice.

Stajan was a member of the NHL Players' Association constitution committee and was recently credited by union lawyer Ian Penny as a key to the relaunch of the NHLPA under new boss Paul Kelly. Granted, Stajan is still a young man in the NHL. He will turn 25 in a month, but that has not been a deterrent for teams such as Chicago or Los Angeles, who gave the 'C' to 20-year-old Jonathan Toews and 24-year-old Dustin Brown, respectively.

Pavel Kubina and Tomas Kaberle, being two of the sturdiest Leafs going into this campaign, not to mention savvy veterans, seemed to be the obvious choices, but that has not come to pass yet. Kaberle has always been a quiet personality and isn't having his best season so far, but Kubina seems like a great choice on certain nights. In those games, the imposing defenceman is snarly, fiercely competitive and offensively dangerous with the puck. Other games, he's a ghost. If Kubina could work on that consistency — and assuming he is going to stay in Toronto for a couple years — he would make an admirable captain in Toronto, as would Stajan.

The Hockey News thn.com

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NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Boston 7 Buffalo 4
Vancouver 6 N.Y. Rangers 3
Washington at Anaheim

TONIGHT'S GAMES
Florida at New Jersey
Pittsburgh at Atlanta
Montreal at Ottawa
Vancouver at Minnesota
Chicago at Dallas
Calgary at Colorado
Detroit at Edmonton
Washington at Los Angeles

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
TORONTO 101 Miami 95
Atlanta 91 Washington 87
Detroit 96 Cleveland 89
Sacramento 105 New Orleans 96
Minnesota 102 Philadelphia 96
L.A. Clippers 108 Oklahoma City 88
Dallas at Houston
Denver at San Antonio
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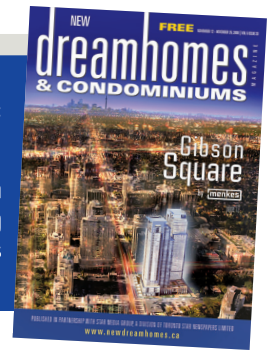

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Checking out home listings on the site, MLS.ca, had become a popular pastime for many and addiction for some.

Real estate grab

Popular site's redesign illustrates a growing addiction

Her name is Briana, and she's an addict, a point she freely admits — promotes, even — online. Her addiction, though, isn't one likely to cause the typical ills associated with junkiedom — the dissolution of relationships, loss of career, or even physical harm (though her mouse-click finger gets a little stiff sometimes).

Online, Briana (her last name is Tomkinson) sporadically maintains a blog called MLS Addict, broadcasting her affliction: a devotion beyond reason to MLS.ca, the website maintained by the Canadian Real Estate Association which lists properties for sale nationwide (MLS stands for Multiple Listing Service).

According to Comscore, which tracks web traffic, MLS.ca garners three million unique hits every month. When the site relaunched last month with a confusing array of new features, the response revealed what Tomkinson always knew: Her kind are legion.

And, says Bob Linney of CREA, they were angry.

"Since (the relaunch), we've gotten 16,000 e-mails either complaining or asking for help," Linney sighs. "It's a service that people get emotionally attached to. We understand that. And it's been a huge, huge education problem, believe me."

Linney wants to be clear: The new site, redubbed Realtor.ca in a nod to the industry it is meant to serve (MLS.ca, CREA rightly decided, was a little oblique), was meant to improve the user experience, not hamper it. The old interface, which divided provinces or cities into arbitary segments (Toronto's were C01 for downtown, or W01 for the west end), was done away with in favour of postal codes, or an interactive map.

The problems were apparent immediately. "People had some trouble getting the map to work," Linney says, a verbal shrug. On the technical side, CREA is trying to iron out the rough spots for a quiet reintroduction of the new site today.

But CREA, in tweaking the penetrating cultural phenomenon it created (whether it meant to or not) stumbled squarely into the new normal — online, at least: A public empowered by technology in virtually all consumer choice will read any attempt to claw that back, even slightly, as a sign of oppression.

And in the world of MLS addiction, a significant, if accidental, social sensation, this is not hyperbole.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Voyeuristic appeal

- MLS.ca was a useful tool for active homebuyers; but for a much larger audience of casual gawkers, it was a self-directed traipse through what is casually called real estate porn — a glimpse through the peephole of anything from the lives of those living in out-of-reach opulence to those of your friends and neighbours.

To the sellers: It's not just a buyer's market

TheHunt

amitp@rogers.com

For the past couple of weeks I've been speaking on the buyer's market that has descended upon our fair city, bringing with it very real opportunities in the way of unique deals that haven't been seen in the city for several years. Whether we're talking condos or houses, for the first time in several years most purchase prices have actually dropped. But what about the sellers? Most people would have you believe that if you're selling in this market you're necessarily doomed. Let me calm your nerves.

Please don't misunderstand my positivity for blind faith. The economic uncertainty that surrounds us is no myth. However, the buried truth is that the buyer's market should be a major concern only for those few us who are selling and not yet buying. In other words, for those of us who are in the rare position of needing to sell without having any aspirations to buy.

It's important to remember that in the case of the vast majority of home sellers, chances are they are home buyers as well. So if Rick and Maya are selling their home because they are upgrading or switching areas, or what have you, the sale price of their existing home is not the only number they're concerned with. It's not the price they sell their home, nor the price they purchase their new home, but rather the spread between the two that is of the utmost importance.

If Rick and Maya have done their homework they'll likely find that, in most cases, while the prices may have dropped, their spread — or their actual cost — hasn't changed much, if at all. If their current home is now $10,000 below what the value was a few months ago, the $10,000 less they'll likely pay on their new home will balance out the difference.

So if you are a home seller like Rick and Maya, the first thing you want to do is evaluate your spread. If you find that it's not going to cost you a heck of a lot more, if at all, you may actually decide that now is a preferable time to move. In some instances the spread may actually have decreased.

The truth is you may find, even as a seller, that this market is actually a positive one for you. If you have any questions pertaining to your own personal situation, feel free to contact me anytime.

Amit is a Realtor/Developer with Re/Max. amitp@rogers.com

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Decor

Read more in the December issue of STYLE AT HOME magazine.
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TRACY SHUMATE

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Green style

Salvage Studio DIY projects embrace 3Rs

HOME LIBRARY The Salvage Studio by Amy Duncan, Beth Evans-Ramos and Lisa Hilderbrand, $24, Skipstone, softcover, 200 pages.

The founders of The Salvage Studio in Edmonds, Wash. help you incorporate the three Rs of green style into your home with 35 projects featuring detailed instructions. Chair springs make an eclectic candle chandelier, pretty pillowcases become charming laundry bags, and silver-plated spoons and forks are handy key hooks. Plus, the ideas can be adapted to almost any style of home, depending on the materials. Seeing what things can become will inspire you to turn ordinary objects into extraordinary ones. — JENN HOULIHAN

Paper presence

Use classic paper-crafting techniques to decorate your home this holiday

Embellish a simple, modern dining chair with an attractive wallpaper like this one by design star Marcel Wanders for Graham & Brown.

Cut two pieces of wallpaper to the approximate dimensions of the chair back and seat. Lightly sand surfaces to be papered, then wipe them with a damp cloth. Generously apply heavy-duty wallpaper paste to sanded areas; coat corners and edges well. Apply paper, straightening pattern; smooth out from centre to edges with a damp sponge. Trim excess wallpaper using a craft knife. Seal with Mod Podge, *mod podge.com*. — WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY MARGOT AUSTIN

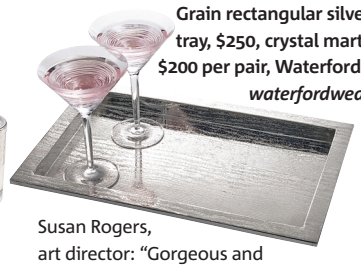
MARK BURSTYN

Marcel Wanders Kelly wallpaper in White/Gold, Graham & Brown, *grahambrown.com*. Gilbert chair, Rara champagne flutes, Rationell Variera tray, IKEA, *ikea.ca*. Holiday Living gold ornament wreath, Lowe's, *lowes.ca*. Gold-dipped teapot and sugar bowl, HomeSense, *homesense.ca*. White bowl, President's Choice Home Collection, *pc.ca*. Venise napkins, Libeco Home, *libeco homestores.com*. Decorative gold artichokes, ChairTableLamp, 416-934-1021.

We love it! Style at Home editors share the treats that top their wish lists

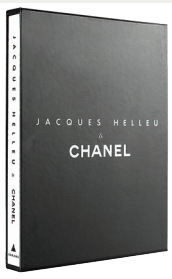
Charlotte Moss for Agraria Left Bank travel candles, $75 US per set of 3, Charlotte Moss, *charlottemoss.com*.

Margot Austin, senior design editor: "This item combines many of my favourite things in one exquisite gift: fine home fragrance, the romance of candlelight (and) a striking package featuring intricate fretwork and marbleized papers."



Michael Aram for Waterford Wood Grain rectangular silver-plated tray, $250, crystal martini glasses, $200 per pair, Waterford Wedgwood, *waterfordwedgwood.com*.

Susan Rogers, art director: "Gorgeous and stylish, this silver tray is just too pretty to hide away. So why would I? Even Santa would be flattered to have his milk and cookies served on such a beauty!"



Jacques Helleu & Chanel by Jacques Helleu, $160, Abrams, 2006.

Ashleigh Schouwerwou, associate art director: "I absolutely adore this stunning book. It perfectly fuses together my love of fashion, design and photography. Hint, hint!"

FELIX WEDGWOOD

Cheval de Caractere 90 cm sq. silk twill scarf, $400, Hermès, 416-968-8626.

Laurie Grassi, executive editor: "Hermès scarves are guaranteed classics... I'd frame this graphic hot pink one with an equine motif formed from the letters that spell Hermès."

— PRODUCED BY BRETT WALTHER

TED YARWOOD

Design solution: Ideas for creating a great mud room

Q We're a busy family of four (plus a dog and cat) and are finalizing plans for our new dream house. If you were building a brand-new house from scratch, what's the one thing you feel would be a necessity?
— Pamela Andrews, Dartmouth, N.S.

A The first thoughts that popped into my head were gourmet kitchen, to-die-for ensuite bath and walk-in closets. But then it came to me — a mud room! Of all the must-haves for a new house, a mud room, like this one in the former home of Toronto designer Nicala Taylor-Farwell (shown at left) will ease daily routines the most, especially for families with kids and pets. Here are some mud room design ideas:

- Plenty of closed-door and drawer storage to keep clutter out of sight.
- Individual built-in closets and/or drawers assigned to each family member (kind of like lockers).
- A bench for removing and putting on boots and shoes.
- A dog wash station with a tiled area and hand-held shower.
- A built-in dog bed area.
- A space to park a stroller and, later, store sports equipment.
- Radiant underfloor heating for a cosy feel and to help evaporate tracked-in moisture quickly.
- A moppable floor surface like ceramic, porcelain or stone tile.
- A charging station for cellphones, iPods and the like.
- A family calendar and message centre.
- An adjacent powder room.

Margot Austin, senior design editor, Style at Home

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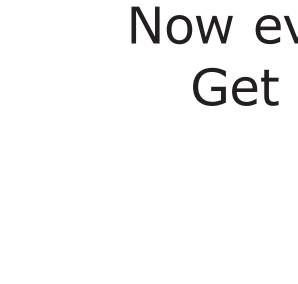

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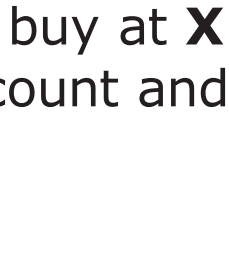

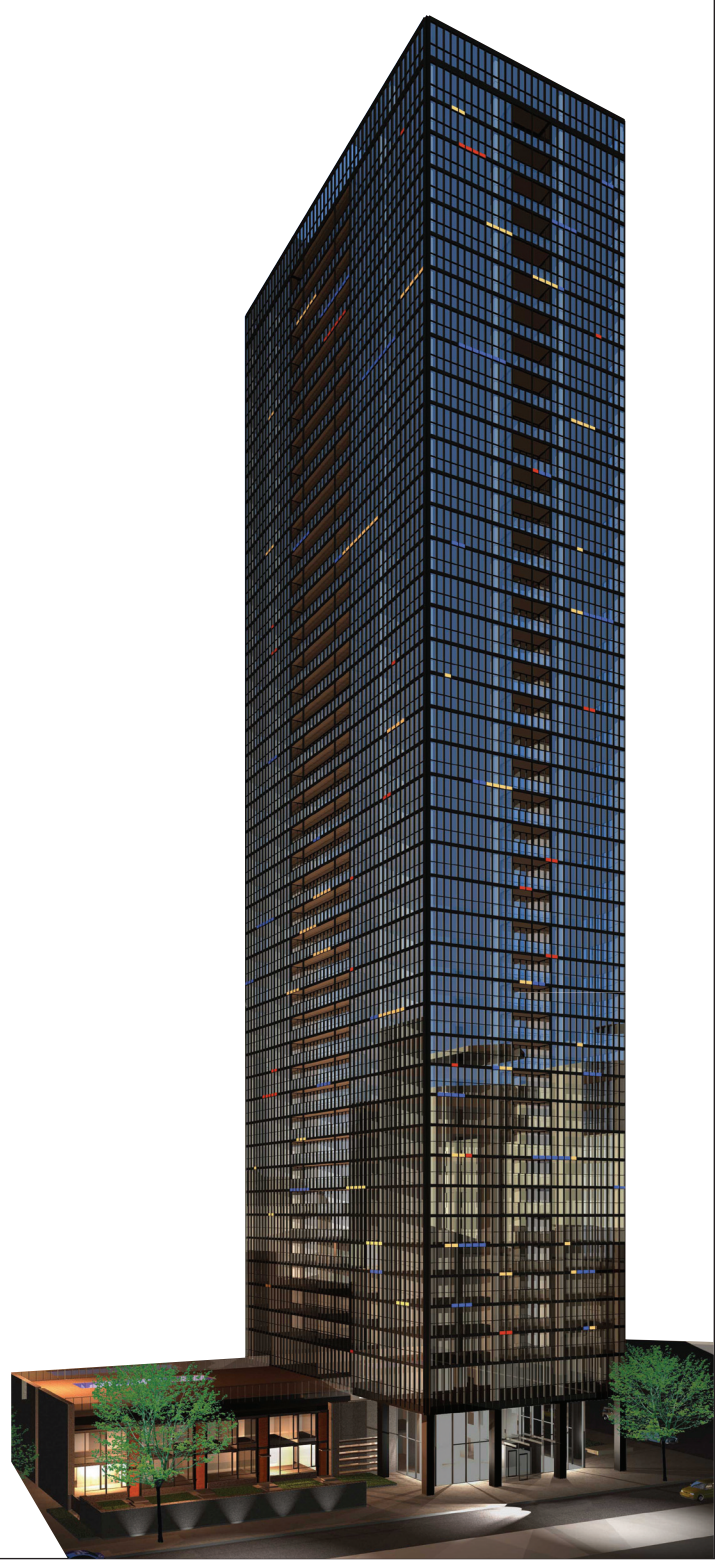

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Stick 'em up

Today's wall decals are dramatic and versatile

Most people associate wall stickers or decals with their childhood. Remember those Cinderella or other fairytale stickers? They were cute... for a while.

Then there were those butterfly or flower bathroom stickers, and let's face it — they were never even remotely cute.

Well, thankfully, things have changed.

HomeScape

Sylvia Putz

sputz@arrestingdesign.com

Take a look in any Home Depot or check out online companies such as Ottawa-based Wall Juice, *walljuice.com*, or California-based Design With a Z, *DesignWithaZ.com* and you can find striking, stylish and dramatic wall art that's easy to stick up.

One defining characteristic of stylish and dramatic decals is that they're unapologetically large. They have to be big, in fact, to pack enough punch. Think life-sized or larger.

For example, I love Wall Juice's traditional "fake furniture" decals which variously depict a coat rack, a mirror, a fireplace, a fake headboard or three chairs.

What I love about this line is that it lends a bit of a visual pun, adding the look of traditional furniture and furnishings in a space that may be anything but.

(A smaller decal such as the firm's wrought-iron bracket can look classy, but my advice is to be careful with the more petite stickers. They're usually boring at best, and tacky at worst.)

I'm also keen on the myriad nature-themed offerings from Wall Juice. Trees and branches are available in a range of chic variations, some very Zen-looking, such as the pleasing silhouette of a bare hardwood tree in winter.

WALL JUICE

This wall sticker by Ottawa-based Wall Juice shows just how striking modern decals have become.

In these styles, you can opt for striking dark colours or for more subtle choices, which create a shadow-like effect. I'd say that the softer approach tends to work in a wider range of settings, while bold tones are more suited to contemporary or modern decor.

One of the reasons I'm a fan of modern decals is that they're relatively inexpensive to buy (and also to ship, if you're going the online route). For example, Wall Juice's prices range from $40 to $150, plus $15 for shipping, and you can receive your order in five to eight days.

Design With a Z uses both American and European designers so their decals can have a bit of a Euro look, including lots of geometric designs.

They too have a line of fake-furniture stickers called Barok, including a chandelier, a candelabra, a bird in a cage, a chest or a series of pictures.

And they make really cool chalkboard decals, upon which you can draw or write with chalk.

Closer to home, Home Depot carries a range of wall decals, including the Blik line (Daisy for $24.95, or Paisley in several different colours for $49.95). Check out others at the store as well, such as the Poppies decal by a company called Plage. IKEA also carries some wall stickers, such as the Slatthult line of flowers, geometric shapes, branches or trees ($16.99 to $19.99).

But whichever manufacturer, design and colour you choose, remember that the drama inherent in large-scale wall stickers means they'll undoubtedly become the focus of a room. That's what they're designed for.

So don't make the mistake of using them in a space that has another focus or a lot of competing details.

Modern decals

- Decals are relatively inexpensive, both to buy and to ship if you go the online route.
- They're also great for indecisive decorators, who can move them around until satisfied with the location and look.
- Many manufacturers say their decals won't ruin the wall when they're taken down, and that they'll also remain sticky for relocation.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in home decor and design. She has written extensively for the TV show Arresting Design.

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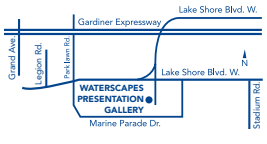

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Monarch

Avoid shady dealings with written contracts

LegalMatters

Jeffrey D. Cowan
jeff@cowanandtaylor.com

Q I have recently had a very poor experience with a real estate agent and a lawyer combination that has left me with a very bad taste in my mouth. I engaged a realtor who stated that she would drop her commission if I purchased the house we were looking at and she would pay my legal fees on closing (I purchased with zero-per-cent down). When closing came, the realtor was conveniently away and the lawyer who I met with facilitated the signing of all of the closing documents and then requested $3,000 to complete the transaction (otherwise I wouldn't get my keys or my new home). I was up against the wall, so I scrambled around and found the money and was able to close the transaction. What are my options now?

A My sincere apologies if one of my colleagues was involved in any underhanded dealings that left you with a horrible circumstance to deal with on the day of the closing of your new home. However, there are a few items that all purchasers should be aware of:

- 1. The zero-per-cent down is a thing of the past with new credit restrictions and the subprime crisis in the U.S.
- 2. Agents often work with lawyers who complement one another but they are separate entities and you are dealing with entirely different retainers and business dealings. Both of them should have set out the financial expectations in writing prior to you showing up at the lawyer's office to sign documents on your new home.
- 3. The old saying applies: If the deal seems too good to be true it probably is.
- 4. The last point to be made is something I mention in almost every column: If it's not in writing, you can't depend on it. You should have received the assurances from both the lawyer and the real estate agent in writing. Without this, what can you rely upon?

There are a huge number of realtors and lawyers out there who are professional business people but sometimes the consumer can fall victim to underhanded dealings. Your first line of defence is the Real Estate Council of Ontario and the Law Society of Upper Canada but I would not be averse to approaching the individuals prior to taking this approach and expressing my concerns clearly and calmly.

I hope you can get some satisfaction from this situation but you are going to have to be very proactive about your treatment.

Jeffrey D. Cowan is the principal of Cowan & Taylor, Barristers & Solicitors, jeff@cowanandtaylor.com. The information contained in this article should not be relied upon as legal advice.

Immigrants key to fuelling sales: Analyst

MARKET Immigration will continue to be the key driver in ensuring Greater Toronto's housing market remains buoyant, a Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. conference heard.

"This is going to be important," CMHC senior market analyst Jason Mercer told the conference, held recently at the Metro Toronto Conference Centre.

"The key issue we are looking at is population growth," Mercer added. "All these new households are going to need a place to live."

Coupled with the high number of first-time homebuyers continuing to flood the market and downsizing baby boomers, all this activity will continue to fuel a "balanced market situation," he said.

Although naysayers are consistently warning that Ontario's economy is firmly on the downswing, Mercer predicted solid growth for housing in the long term, thanks in large part to the ongoing influx of immigrants.

And Toronto, among all Canadian cities, is the major beneficiary of all this new immigration, he added.

"It really is a positive picture for the Greater Toronto Area with sustained growth over the next 20 years," he said.

In Toronto's downtown core, the high cost of home ownership will continue to be an issue.

That means many households — especially first-time and last-time homebuyers — will choose smaller, more affordable housing such as condos.

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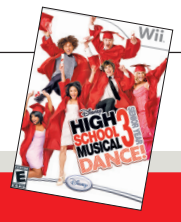

Holiday Shopping Guide

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

'Tis the season

Looking for the perfect gift? For everything from the coolest toys to the best hostess gifts, go to pages 35-39.

Frugal fun Pg 30

CBC's Steven and Chris offer budget-saving party tips.

Tech gifts Pg 32

Reviews of the hottest items for the computer lover.

Trends Pg 34

Educational toys to be a big hit this year, experts say.

Pamper yourself

This black leather City Shopper ($240) by Ecco has compartments that make it easy to organize your belongings — perfect for a long day of holiday shopping! For more, go to ecco.com or call 1-800-358-3226. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Holiday Shopping Guide I

This year, shop like Scrooge

BRIAN TOWIE
brian.towie@metronews.ca

The recent economic downturn may just prove beneficial to Canadians looking to save some cash this Christmas season.

The fallout from worldwide market crashes has forced shoppers to scale back their spending habits. While Canada hasn't taken the hit as badly as its neighbour to the south, the saving trend will continue through the holidays as families expect their financial situation to deteriorate, experts say. An October survey by the Conference Board of Canada shows that consumer confidence is at its lowest level since 1982.

Retailers must rise to the challenge, says Derek Nighbor, senior vice-president of national affairs at the Retail Council of Canada. Along with economic realities, there's a psychological impact. A shopper, even if they're flush, will stay tight with the buck in tough times. Stores will have to make adjustments to lure in customers, which often means deeper discounts at the cash register.

"Anytime consumer confidence is low you're going to see some drop-offs, so retailers will have to fight harder to attract traffic," he said. "What they'll often do is designate loss leaders — selling selected items at a loss to get people into the store. Once customers are there, they might buy a few more things."

Discount-oriented merchants stand to gain the most, says Nighbor, and if you're looking for a deal, you may want to reconnoiter with your local mom-and-pop shops. Such establishments are often on a first-name basis with their clientele and can be more flexible in their marketing. Don't expect steals at electronics retailers — Nighbor adds technology items are becoming necessities and not wants.

You may not find any deals in the toy section either. No matter what the economic situation may be, parents will splurge on their child at Christmas, says Elizabeth Evans, director of the Ted Rogers School of Retail Management at Ryerson University.

"Christmas is a season where we celebrate giving gifts to children," she said. "Parents like to buy things for their kids. Toys would be one of the last things they'll cut back on."

And don't those toy manufacturers know it. Reidin Goode, senior marketing manager of the girls division at Mattel Canada, says her company is undeterred by the downturn. She predicts a successful year, particularly in its Barbie lines.

MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

A post-Christmas shopper looks for bargains beside a 25 per cent off sign in Macy's Dec 27, 2006 in New York City. Retailers are hoping that after-Christmas shoppers will help them regroup after a somewhat disappointing holiday shopping season thus far.

"We're continuing to infuse innovation and a new freshness," she said. "We're banking on a really great Christmas."

Steven and Chris share tips for a fabulous and cheap holiday party

BRIAN TOWIE
brian.towie@metronews.ca

You can host a fabulous Christmas party on the cheap and Steven and Chris have some tips on how to do it.

Steven Sabados and Chris Hyndman, hosts of CBC Television talk show Steven and Chris, talked with Metro about how to entertain your family and friends without going over budget in tough financial times.

"This year of all years, Christmas is not about the presents but about the people who count," said Hyndman.

Stick to the basics when you throw a seasonal soiree, says the decorating duo: Ask guests to bring their own booze and formal attire (they note people love to dress up), and above all else, don't sweat the small stuff. "The less stressed you are about having a Christmas party, the more fun it will be," notes Hyndman.

On the web

- For a recipe of Steven's Chocolate Lasagna, please visit metronews.ca.

PHOTO HGTV

Steven Sabados, left, and Chris Hyndman.

Sabados says dimming your lights and lighting some candles creates an intimate and sophisticated atmosphere. You don't even need to deck all your halls. Focus on the living room to decorate — a beautiful centerpiece can help you, as can the right floral arrangement.

"Paperwhites are the all-time favourite bulb for indoor forcing," the pair writes via e-mail. "Their large clusters of pure white flowers and their sweet, musky smell make them a holiday favourite. Plant bulbs in decorative pots a week apart (to ensure at least one pot is blooming when you need them) in late November and early December. They will flower in 4 to 6 weeks with seldom a miss and you'll feel better knowing that your fresh holiday flowers are taken care of well in advance."

You can also keep a simple spread for your hungry party-goers, says the pair. Pan-fried nuts and small pastries can fill bellies for relatively little money and effort. You can also get creative with noodles with Sabados' chocolate lasagna, a recipe that serves 6-8.

"This year of all years, Christmas is not about the presents but about the people who count."
Chris Hyndman

For more tips from Steven and Chris, visit cbc.ca/stevenandchris.

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Holiday Shopping Guide I

Gift ideas big and small for the tech savvy

RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

HP TouchSmart IQ816 computer ($2,199)

There's not a lot of zing in the desktop computer market these days, though HP's TouchSmart line is an exception — the first practical consumer machine that delivers on the whole 2001: A Space Odyssey vibe that we've been wishing for since the first consumer Windows machines hit the market 20 years ago.

The IQ816 has a massive 25.5-inch screen, with everything but the power supply built, iMac-style, into the back. There's a wireless keyboard and mouse included, but they're vestigial appendages, since you're supposed to use the touchscreen as your main user interface. It actually works — a vast improvement over the first generation of TouchSmart machines that's built around big icons and widget-like applications.

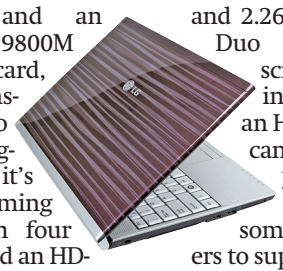
I set the machine up as a family computer in our kitchen, where the kid immediately took to the touchscreen interface to play games, while their parents quickly configured it to deliver news and weather info on startup in the morning. It made a quick wireless connection with the main computer downstairs so we could play videos effortlessly. On a more mundane note, the touchscreen makes computer solitaire utterly addictive.

Toshiba Qosmio X300 notebook ($1,999)

There's nothing subtle about the X300, with its flame red and orange metallic finish and array of totally unnecessary red LEDs, it takes its design cues from hot rods, not space ships. It's not restrained inside either — there's an unlocked and therefore overclockable Centrino X9100 3.06 GHz processor and an NVidia 9800M graphics card, which translated into normal English means it's fast. It's a gaming laptop, with four USB ports and an HDMI out, in case you're not jazzed enough about the 17-inch LCD widescreen.

There are also dual hard drives totalling 640GB and a 5.1 Altec Lansing speaker system. Toshiba is a Blu-ray refusenik, so the drive is regular DVD, and the screen has that superglossy finish that means you'll be seeing your own face in the shadows when watching movies. Apart from these quibbles, this is the monster (4.12 kg!) desktop replacement machine every boy dreams about.

LG P300 notebook ($1,799)



On the other end of the scale there's this very light (1.6 kg) laptop, with its sleek lacquered finish and 2.26 GHz Intel Core Duo processor. The screen is just a 13.3-inch LCD, but there's an HDMI output so you can use it to power your flat panel. You might also want some outboard speakers to supplement the pallid ones built into the P300. The slim profile and light weight is mostly due to the DVD drive being provided as an outboard accessory. There's 2 GB of RAM and a 320 GB hard drive as well as Bluetooth connectivity, which should help justify the rather impressive price tag.

Accessories

Belkin has couple laptop pads that range from the active to the passive. **The Cushtop** ($34.99) is an attractive little upholstered lap desk for your notebook that includes a slot to slip the machine when not in use. The **Laptop Cooling Lounge** ($39.99) is probably the perfect accessory for a gaming laptop like the Qosmio X300 — an adjustable plastic stand that includes a USB-powered fan to help draw the heat away from your overclocked chipset, out the sides and away from your once-toasty lap.

Microsoft has persevered with mouse technology, releasing the **Blue Track mouse** in desktop and notebook sizes ($89.95 and $69.95, respectively). It's a wireless unit that's supposed to be able to track on any surface, including carpets and glossy stone, and it lives up to the hype. They've also revamped the design of their webcams with the 2 megapixel **LifeCam Show** ($99.95), a discrete little pill of a unit that comes with a variety of mounting options, including stick-on magnets, a clip, and a stick-like stand in case your monitor is too thick or too pretty.

HP's **C6380 all-in-one printer/scanner** ($199.99) adds Wi-Fi connectivity to its range of features, neatly networking with your range of desktops and laptops by either the standard USB cable, through an Ethernet port on your router, or wirelessly. It sets up without a fuss, has a dedicated tray for 4x6 prints, and comes with software that lets you create PDF copies of documents for e-mailing.

Finally, I've spent the last two months with Crumpler's cutely named **Dreadful Embarrassment** laptop bag ($95). It's a messenger-style affair with room for up to a 17-inch laptop, and plenty of room for accessories, magazines, pens and a cup of microwave soup for lunch. Like most of the Crumpler line, it's assertively colourful and miles better looking than the usual uptight laptop bag.

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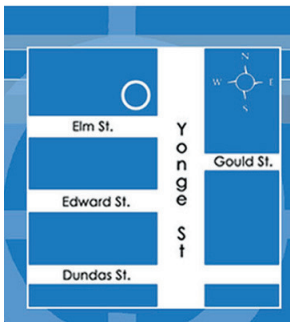

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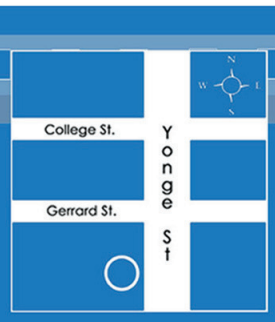

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Holiday Shopping Guide I

Creative toys, games tops

Big-name toys expected to fly off shelves as well this season

This year, Elmo Live ($69.99) is expected to be a big hit.

BRIAN TOWIE
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This holiday season, it's all about toys that amuse and engage, say experts on both sides of the border.

As parents make beelines to their local department stores this shopping season, they'll likely find toys that encourage hands-on learning side by side with the Bratz and Star Wars playsets. Construction sets, collectible card games and interactive DVD games are all becoming part of the fun.

"We've got educational toys, we've got learning to read toys, we've got building toys, imagination toys," Jeff Hurst, president of the Canadian Toy Association, said at a Nov. 3 media conference in Toronto previewing some of the hot toys for the holidays. "I certainly think we've got a good representation of what's going to be on the Christmas list as we go into this year."

The association expects the season's big sellers to include Struxx Robotrixx, a construction set where kids can build roaring motion-detection dinosaurs out of rods, balls and sockets, and Disgusting Digestion, a science kit of bile-inducing experiments that educate the user about the human digestive system.

Kathleen McHugh, president of the Chicago-based American Specialty Toy Retailing Association, expects trends to lean toward more creative, open-ended toys. In an economy where parents are feeling the pinch, she says, a new focus is on toys with longer-lasting value.

Bratz World House Play Set, $44.99.

"More is not the answer to everything. There's going to be a return to quality over quantity," she said. "The right kind of toy will do different things. Board games will also prove popular. Because of the consumer situation, more families will be spending time together at home. There are a lot of great board games out there to do that."

Those looking for more mainstream — and more expensive — toys will not be disappointed. Elmo Live, an interactive version of the Sesame Street Muppet that sings and tells jokes, Bakugan Battle Brawlers, a collectible strategy game of cards and pop-up robots, and Bratz World, a mix-and-match fashion playset, are among the items expected to fly off the shelves this year.

"We believe Elmo Live is going to do well this season," says Donna Polimac, a senior marketer for Fisher Price, which is parented by Elmo Live-maker Mattel. "With seven times the content of Tickle Me Elmo, it's probably going to be our biggest seller."

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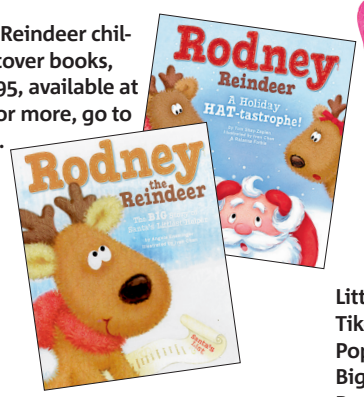

In the Night Garden blanket time Iggle Piggle, by Playskool. Available at Zellers for $34.99.

Little Tikes Pop Tunes Big Rocker Drum and Pop Tunes Guitar, both $24.99.

Crayola Color Wonder Magic Light Brush, $24.99, and Crayola Glow Station, far right, $29.99.

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Time: 1:00 PM **Presenter:** Brandon Whitby *Manulife Securities* **Topic:** *Common Sense Financial Planning in Hard Economic Times*	**Time:** 1:00 PM **Presenter:** Jérémie Ryan *Financial Consumer Agency of Canada* **Topic:** *Building Financial Life Skills*
Time: 3:00 PM **Presenter:** Patricia Lovett-Reid *TD Waterhouse* **Topic:** *Seven Steps to Financial Freedom*	**Time:** 3:00 PM **Presenter:** Dale Goldhawk *Host of Goldhawk Fights Back For You AM 740* **Topic:** *Safeguard Against Scams*

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Holiday Shopping Guide |

All for fun

Vancouver 2010 jersey bib set, $18. Available online at vancouver2010.com.

My Tagalongs' 911 Tin, which includes a sewing kit and nail file. Available as part of the Emergency Valet, $30, at The Bay.

Chocolate Santa bath bomb, $6.95. Available at Lush, lush.ca.

Hello Kitty humidifier, by Crane, $49.99. Available at Home Outfitters.

Vancouver 2010 plushies, $25-$40. Available online at vancouver2010.com.

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Celebrate the teachers in your life with this Teachers Rule! ornament, $12.99 at Hallmark. For more, go to hallmark.ca. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Toast to the host

Wolf Blass 2005 Yellow Label 'Original' special 40th Anniversary blend of Cabernet, Shiraz and Merlot, $24.95.

Green & Black's Organic Chocolate collection. Includes Organic Hot Chocolate, $10.99; Green & Black's Unwrapped cookbook, $24.99; and chocolates, $3.69-$24.99. Available at Shoppers Drug Mart, Whole Foods and more.

Glenfiddich Tasting Collection, $72.95. Includes Glenfiddich 12-year-old, 15-year-old and 18-year-old single malt scotch whisky.

Stacking Snowman with Candy, $14.99 at Canadian Tire. For more, go to canadiantire.ca.

Organic Acacia Honey from the African Savannah and loose-leaf Organic Brussels Breakfast Tea, far right. Both available as part of Le Pain Quotidien's Best of Belgium Basket, $85. For more, call 416-485-3000.

Ceramic Peppermint and Gingerbread Cocoa Pot, $19.99, and ceramic Peppermint and Gingerbread Mug with Lid and Spoon, right, $12.99. Both available at Hallmark. For more, go to hallmark.ca.

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Holiday Shopping Guide I

Make him happy

Aveda Men Pure-Formance aroma spray, $71/50 mL, and Aveda Men Pure-Formance firm hold gel, $22.50/150 mL. For more, go to aveda.com or call 1-800-689-1066.

From left: Scarf, $12; wool moose hat, $8; and wool moose gloves, $8. All by Joe Fresh. Go to joe.ca for more.

Vancouver 2010 mascot hockey pucks, $13. Available at vancouver2010.com.

Plaid sleep package by Joe Fresh, $15. Go to joe.ca for more.

Reyka vodka is filtered through lava rock and distilled with geothermal energy, $34.95/750 mL.

Barcelona boots by Ecco, $245. Available in coffee (shown) and in black. For more, go to ecco.com.

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Divine night
Nuit Divine ($140) by Thierry Mugler, right, is a face-perfecting mask that will leave you with skin that's energized and supple. Available at The Bay. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Holiday Shopping Guide I

Gifts that pamper

Christmas parcel, $29.95, at Lush. Includes Scrub up with Spice Curls and Porridge soaps. Available at lush.ca.

Plaid and penguin-print pyjamas, both $19, at Joe Fresh. For more, go to joe.ca.

Limited-edition Holiday Nights Collection by Cargo, $25. Available at Sephora. For more, go to sephora.com.

Magnolia Necklace by Foxy Originals, $36. Available in black and brown at foxy originals.com.

From left: Cake Walk Triplemint Foot Creme, $8 (currently on sale); Milk Made Hand and Cuticle Buffer, $18; and Milk Made Velveteen Hand Creme, $18. Available at Indigo Chapters, Sephora, The Bay and cakebeauty.com.

From left: Palmer's Cocoa Butter Formula Lotion, $5.99/250 mL; Palmer's Cocoa Butter Formula Jar, $5.99/100g; and Palmer's Cocoa Butter Formula Concentrated Cream, $3.99/100g. Available at Wal-Mart, Shopper's Drug Mart and Pharmaprix.

Enchantress Beauty Kit, by Foxy Originals and Smashbox, $45. Includes silver pendant necklace, lip enhancing gloss, and much more. Available online only at smashbox.com.

Next week's lineup

GIFT GUIDES For a roundup of holiday CDs, gifts for him and her, and much more, pick up Metro's next Holiday Shopping Guide on Nov. 27.

35 shopping days remain before Christmas.

The Winter Trend make-up range from The Body Shop, $14.50-$24.50. Includes sparkle eye palette, centre, $24.50; sparkle lip gloss, right, $16.50; and sparkle roller ball, far right, $14.50. For more, go to thebody shop.ca.

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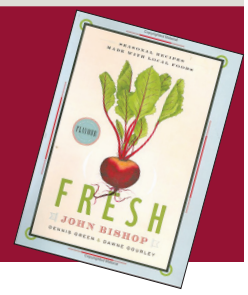
And in second place ...
Dish Entertains: Everyday Simple to Special Occasions by Trish Magwood (HarperCollins Publishers Ltd.) took the silver prize at the 11th annual Canadian Culinary Book Awards. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Food

Fresh: Seasonal recipes made with local foods by John Bishop and Dennis Green won the Gold award at the 11th annual Canadian Culinary Book Awards.

Metro News Services



EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Put this on your plate, mate

À la carte

Barb Holland
Metro Food Writer

Like Canada, immigration has brought a world of cultures and cuisines to Australia. Celebrity chefs, cookbook authors and food writers have also been influential in creating a 'Mod Oz' cuisine. Add wonderful seafood, plenty of produce and grazing land, and Australia has become one of the most diverse and cosmopolitan places in the world to eat.

Donna Hay is Australia's leading food stylist, food editor and best-selling cookbook author. Her food, recipes and styling focuses on basic ingredients, simply prepared and beautifully photographed. Her 16 cookbooks have sold more than 3.3 million copies and have been translated into nine languages.

Hay is the publisher of donna hay magazine, a bi-monthly food magazine with tremendous local success and far-reaching international appeal.

Lemon Pork and Roasted Vegetables

This recipe is adapted from one of Donna Hay's latest series of six cookbooks, Simple Essentials, Beef, Lamb + Pork (HarperCollins Publishers Ltd). The photograph shows fingerling potatoes but regular white potatoes will roast up nicely with the pork in this one dish dinner. As fresh lemon thyme is difficult to find this time of year, try regular thyme or a pinch of dried thyme leaves and a little grated lemon zest. Makes 4 servings.

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 fingerling or medium white potatoes, scrubbed
- 4 unpeeled garlic cloves
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 1 large (1 lb/500 g) pork tenderloin, cut into 4 pieces
- 4 slices pancetta
- 4 sprigs fresh lemon thyme
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes (about 2-1/2 cups/625 mL)

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C). Cut fingerling potatoes in half lengthwise or regular potatoes into wedges. Toss potatoes and garlic in oil. Place in a large baking dish; season with salt and pepper. Roast 20 minutes.

Top each piece of pork with 1 slice pancetta and a thyme sprig. Tie with kitchen string. Add pork to pan and roast 10 minutes. Add tomatoes and cook another 10 to 15 minutes or until pork is cooked through and potatoes are tender and golden. Push garlic out of skins and serve with pork, potatoes and tomatoes.

This recipe, Lemon Pork and Roasted Vegetables, is adapted from one of Donna Hay's latest series of six cookbooks, Simple Essentials: Beef, Lamb + Pork (HarperCollins Publishers Ltd).

MORE ...

Other influential chefs and food professionals from 'down under':

- **Bill Granger** has three restaurants, bills, in and around Sydney, plus five cookbooks and two TV series, bills food, to his credit. As one of Australia's leading food writers, Bill Granger is a regular contributor to Australian and British food publications. His style is fresh and easy going yet comforting. His unfussy recipes use readily available ingredients and appeal to busy cooks everywhere.
- **Neil Perry** is an Aussie super chef. Owner of Rockpool, one of Sydney's (since 1989) and more recently Melbourne's, most highly acclaimed restaurants, he sources the finest locally produced ingredients and prepares them exquisitely. Author of five cookbooks (not all available in Canada), Rockpool, Balance & Harmony, Simply Asian, The Food I Love and Good Food, Perry's modern cooking is widely regarded.
- Author of four cookbooks, Spice, Christine Manfield Originals and Christine Mansfield Desserts, **Christine Mansfield** is another of Australia's celebrated chefs. Inspired by strong flavours, her lastest book, Stir (Penquin Books), provides recipes for making 14 basic preparations such as green and red curry paste, harissa and preserved lemons; and over 100 recipes using those preparations as the basis. She also produces a range of spice pastes and condiments under the label Christine Mansfield Spice Collection.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

new arrival

- Expat Australians and Canadian chocolate lovers will celebrate the arrival of Australia's favourite biscuit: Tim Tams. Launched in 1963, the chocolate biscuit sells nearly 35 million packs per year in its native land. The popular treat is now available in major grocery and drug stores across Canada, including IGA and Sobeys.

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Many new mothers experience a brief period of the "postpartum blues" that is considered in the normal range of health and usually ends one week after birth. However, 13% of mothers develop a clinically serious **postpartum depression.**

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- Feeling hopeless or worthless
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- Feeling unable to cope

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So you think you can cook?

Canadians are invited to put their best chili recipes to the test in the first-ever ZANTAC® Chili Challenge. To enter, visit Chilichallenge.ca and submit an original chili recipe for a chance to cook off with Anthony Sedlak, celebrity chef and host of The Food Network's The Main. METRO NEWS SERVICES

When life gives you lemons ...

The Complete Canadian Living Baking Book, the newest offering from the trusted Canadian Living Test Kitchen and Elizabeth Baird, is the gold-standard, go-to book that Canadian bakers can depend on.

Filled with mouth-watering recipes and instructive step-by-step photographs of baking techniques, the book is written specifically for the home baker. It begins with a special introductory chapter on ingredients, equipment and techniques and progresses through seven recipe chapters, each centred around a specific baking category. From cookies to cakes to pies to spoon desserts, there's something for every skill level and palate.

Canadian Living offered Metro a recipe for these unbeatable treats:

Lemon Cheesecake Bars

A middle cream cheese layer makes these a change — for the better — from the usual lemon squares.

INGREDIENTS:

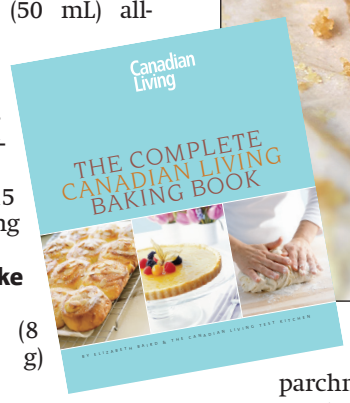
- 4 eggs
- 1 1/4 cups (300 mL) granulated sugar
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) finely grated lemon rind
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) lemon juice
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp (5 mL) baking powder
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) icing sugar

Cheesecake layer:

- 1 pkg (8 oz/250 g) cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) granulated sugar
- 1 egg

Base:

- 30 lemon social tea cookies
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) butter, melted



EDWARD POND PHOTO

Remember to let bars cool completely before cutting for the neatest possible squares.

METHOD:

Line 13- x 9-inch (3.5 L) metal cake pan with parchment paper or grease; set aside.

BASE: In food processor, whirl cookies to make 2 cups (500 mL) crumbs; pulse in butter until moistened. Press into prepared pan. Bake in centre of 325 F (160 C) oven until firm, about 12 minutes. Let cool in pan on rack.

CHEESECAKE LAYER: In bowl, beat cream cheese with sugar until smooth; beat in egg. Spread over base; set aside.

In bowl, beat eggs with sugar until thickened. Beat in lemon rind and juice, flour and baking powder until smooth; pour over cheesecake layer. Bake in centre of 325 F (160 C) oven until edges are set and lightly browned, about 35 minutes. Let cool in pan on rack. (Make ahead: Remove from pan; wrap and refrigerate for up to 5 days or overwrap in heavy-duty foil and freeze for up to 1 month.) Cut into bars; dust with icing sugar.

Tips:

- Hold an offset or rubber spatula as parallel to the surface as possible as you spread the filling evenly over the base.
- Let bars cool completely before cutting.
- Lift uncut bars out of pan using parchment paper liner as handles.
- Place on cutting board.
- With long knife, trim off edges to neaten up.
- A ruler is helpful so all pieces are the same size.
- For 13- x 9-inch (3.5 L) metal cake pan, cut crosswise into quarters. Cut each quarter in half lengthwise, then cut crosswise into fifths to make 10 squares.
- Keep a wet, wrung-out cloth handy to wipe knife clean between cuts.

On the web

Need more?

- You've got lemons, now try orange: Orange Sour Cream Bundt Cake, another fabulous recipe from The Complete Canadian Living Baking Book, is available at metronews.ca.

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Billy's Best Bottles

"Many Chardonnay producers have downsized the flavour and richness in response to public's complaint that the wine was 'too much.' Sales of light, non-oaked Chardonnay are booming." Read the full column at metronews.ca. METRO NEWS SERVICES

At home with Jamie Oliver

Here are two recipes from British chef Jamie Oliver's latest cookbook Jamie at Home: Cook Your Way to the Good Life (Hyperion).

Butternut squash muffins taste a bit like carrot cake and are sure to please the kids in the family. And chili and pepper flavours blend to produce a delicious combination in pork goulash.

Butternut Squash Muffins with a Frosty Top

INGREDIENTS:

- 400 g (14 ounces) butternut squash, skin on, deseeded, roughly chopped
- 550 ml (2 1/4 cups) light soft brown sugar
- 4 large free-range or organic eggs
- sea salt
- 625 ml (2 1/2 cups) unsifted flour
- 12 ml (2 heaping tsps) baking powder
- handful of walnuts
- 5 ml (1 tsp) ground cinnamon
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) extra virgin olive oil

Frosted Cream Topping:

- zest of one clementine
- zest of one lemon and juice of 1/2 a lemon
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) sour cream
- 35 ml (2 heaping tbsp) sifted icing sugar
- 1 vanilla bean, split lengthwise and seeds scraped out

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 180 C. Line muffin tin with paper cups.

Whiz squash in food processor until finely chopped. Add sugar, eggs, pinch of salt, flour, baking powder, walnuts, cinnamon, olive oil and whiz together till well beaten but don't overdo the mixing.

Fill paper cups with mixture, bake for 20-25 minutes or until a wooden skewer or knife can come out clean.

While muffins are baking, make frosting by putting most of the clementine zest, all the lemon zest and juice in a bowl. Add the sour cream, icing sugar, vanilla seeds and mix well. Put in fridge until muffins have cooled then spoon topping onto each.

Spicy Pork and Chili Pepper Goulash

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 kilograms (4 1/4 pounds) of pork shoulder, off the bone, in one piece, skin off, fat on
- sea salt and freshly ground black pepper
- olive oil
- 2 red onions, peeled and finely sliced
- 2 fresh red chilies, deseeded and finely chopped
- 35 ml (2 heaped tbsp) mild smoked paprika, plus a little extra for serving
- 10 ml (2 tsp) ground caraway seeds
- small bunch of fresh marjoram or oregano leaves
- 5 sweet peppers (mix of colours)
- 284 ml (10-ounce) jar of grilled peppers, drained, peeled and chopped
- 398 ml (14-ounce) can of good-quality plum tomatoes
- 60 ml (4 tbsp) red wine vinegar
- 398 ml (14 ounces) basmati or long-grain rice, washed

- 150 ml (2/3 cup) sour cream
- zest of 1 lemon
- small bunch fresh, flat-leaf parsley, chopped

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A muffin, top left, from the book Jamie At Home by Jamie Oliver. Oliver poses for a photograph in Toronto last week.

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 180 C. Use a deep ovenproof stew pot or dutch oven, with lid.

Heat the pot on the stove. Score the pork fat in a criss-cross pattern through to the meat then season generously with salt and pepper. Add a good slug of olive oil to the pot and then the pork, fat side down. Cook for 15 minutes on medium heat to render the fat, then remove pork and set to the side.

Add onions, chili, paprika, caraway, marjoram or oregano and salt and pepper to the pot. Turn heat down and cook for 10 minutes, then add sliced peppers, grilled peppers and tomatoes. Put the pork back, give the pot a shake, then add enough water to cover the meat. Add vinegar, bring to a boil, cover and place in the hot oven for 3 hours.

When the meat is nearly ready, cook rice in salted boiling water for 10 minutes, drain using a colander and reserve some of the cooking water. Pour the water back into the saucepan and place the colander back into the pan. Cover and leave on low heat to steam and cook for 10 minutes. The result will be fluffy rice.

Stir the sour cream, lemon zest and most of the parsley together in a bowl. When the meat is done, take the pot out of the oven and taste the goulash. You're after a balance of sweetness and spiciness. Tear or break the meat and serve the goulash in a big dish or bowl, with a bowl of steaming rice and another of the sour cream mixture. Sprinkle with the rest of the chopped parsley.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Trove opens second location

The Annex's Trove is set to open a larger second location to house even more fashion must-haves with a grand opening today at 2264 Bloor St. W. (at Runnymede). The store will carry brands such as Demitasse Jewelry, Re-Mix Vintage shoes and Lauren Henry. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Style

90210 inspires hot shades

Can't get enough of the hottest zip code in North America? Well now fans of the hit TV show Beverly Hills, 90210 can add some chic California style into their own lives with three nail lacquer shades inspired by the lead female characters on the show — Silver, Annie and Naomi. The 90210 by OPI collection includes Pretty & Privileged (ruby red), left, Queen of West Web-erly (purple shimmer), Sweet as Annie-thing! (lollipop red). Available beginning January 2009 at professional salons and spas for $9.95. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Ford dresses Craig's Bond

The newest 007 is sparse yet elegant

When it comes to fashion, few would argue that 007 is anything less than a 10.

Along with sports cars, gadgets and sex appeal, an impeccable sense of style is a hallmark of the now 46-year-old James Bond movie franchise, which expands to 22 films with the release of Quantum of Solace.

The look of the newest Bond, played for the second time by Daniel Craig, is rugged in the spirit of Sean Connery, who introduced 007 on screen. Craig's wardrobe is sparse yet elegant, with a palette mostly limited to basic black, white, blue and grey, says Louise Frogley, costume designer of Quantum of Solace.

To create a good chunk of it, she turned to Tom Ford, the former Gucci and Yves Saint Laurent designer who now has his own Saville Row-style brand.

"I contacted Tom Ford after seeing what he was doing — clothes that are iconic. They're not clothes where you know where you can buy them, there's more mystery," Frogley says. "They're clothes you wish you had."

Ford, who already had dressed Craig for red-carpet appearances, was happy to help.

"A lot of people in the fashion industry think that people who wear traditional clothes are dull. Bond proves that just because you're wearing traditional clothes, your life can be anything but dull."

"Bond proves that just because you're wearing traditional clothes, your life can be anything but dull."
Louise Frogley, costume designer of Quantum of Solace

He purposely kept the designs streamlined.

"By dressing him in a very simple way, it accentuates that it looks simple on the surface but it isn't. It's a metaphor for the perfect suit — the construction that goes into a good suit is a lot of hours of handiwork, but you shouldn't see any of that it the end result. It should look easy and natural and a part of you," he says.

"I do design things that are more extravagant, but that wouldn't be right for Daniel Craig or Bond. Bond wears more of a uniform."

Make that many uniforms. His label alone made 450 full outfits for 11 costume changes in the film. There were replicas for stuntmen and outfits with varying degrees of wear and tear.

Among his designs is Bond's tuxedo, done in midnight blue with a classic shawl collar.

Frogley says that when author Ian Fleming introduced the world to Bond in books just after the Second World War, the idea of a luxurious wardrobe was exciting and aspirational.

GETTY IMAGES

The Bond tuxedo was the perfect symbol for sophistication and untold wealth. In that suit, he'd go to exotic places his fans could only dream of, yet the simplicity of the ensemble also made it relatable.

The cut of the garment is particularly important, since Bond has to run, jump and dodge bullets, while still looking good doing it. The Ford-designed jackets have a roomy skirt, the section of a suit jacket that hangs below the waist, to make action possible

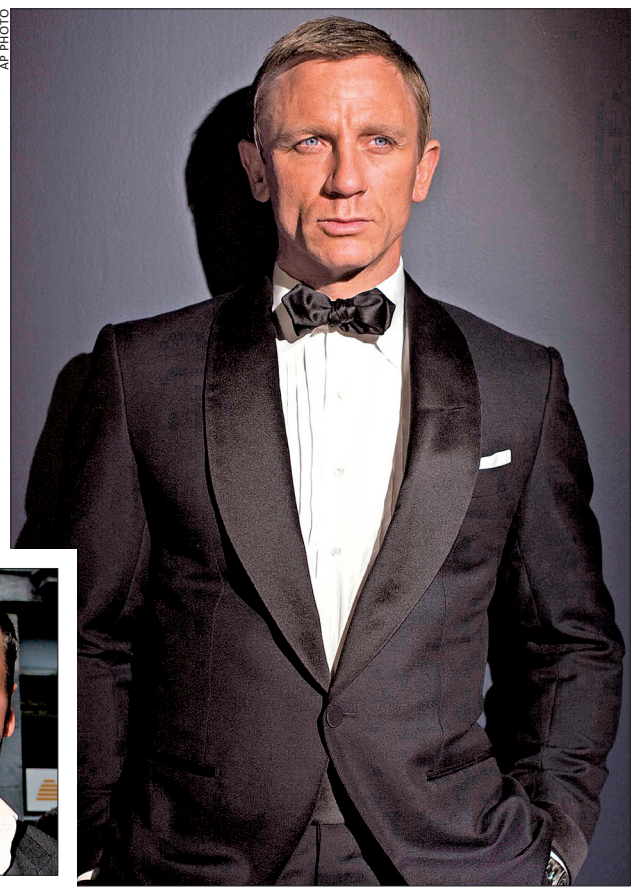
"The jackets would swirl when Daniel was doing a lot of movement," Frogley recalls. "They're perfect for Bond. In the '90s, the popular cut of suits was big but now it's the '60s slimmer Italian cut."

Yet Frogley didn't want Craig's muscular physique to be distracting. "You want to hide the muscles in a suit, otherwise he ends up looking like Arnold Schwarzenegger. You want to leave that as a wonderful surprise when he's wearing something else or less," she says with a laugh.

Ah yes, Bond taking off some clothes is another important part of the franchise.

It's his way with the ladies — as well as his maturity, sophistication, glamour, humour and resourcefulness — that makes Bond the guy many men dream of being, says Mark Rozzo, deputy editor of Men's Vogue, which features Craig as Bond on its November cover.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


AP PHOTO

Daniel Craig in a tuxedo designed by Tom Ford. Along with sports cars, gadgets and sex appeal, an impeccable sense of style is a hallmark of the now 46-year-old James Bond movie franchise. Inset: Designer Tom Ford.

Big belts are an '80s trend that can stay. (Le Chateau, $25).

The '80s are back for teens

Some of the pieces that were cool for teens in the 1980s are cool again today.

Here's how to wear them for 2008:

• **Keep things age-appropriate:** Hannah Montana costume designer Dahlia Foroutan recommends a tiered miniskirt and a top with volume, such as a puffy-sleeve shirt, and a wide belt. No high heels, she says, but ballet flats and Converse sneakers would look great.

And some '80s styles were too mature for teens — big shoulders and high necklines — even though girls wore them, Foroutan notes. In 2008, you'd be well advised to tone down some of that or risk looking more Working Girl than modern girl.

• **Use what we learned the last time around:** A little bit of lace, chunky jewelry and especially those bright colours go a long way. "A neon jacket with a miniskirt and a leopard belt? That's a no," says Gloria Baume, Teen Vogue fashion director.

• **A look from the ages is not necessarily for all ages:** Foroutan warns you at least need a youthful spirit to pull off any of the looks. Without setting a hard age limit, you should take a second look in the mirror if you were old enough to wear to class a "Frankie Says Relax" T-shirt.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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the new fido

Vibrating mascara now available
One day sale! Today purchase the new Lancôme Ôscillation, the revolutionary new vibrating power mascara ($39). Available at *lancome.ca*. KIM ELBO/FOR METRO CANADA

Liven up the season with colour

Style File

kim.elbo@metronews.ca

ask kim

I'm invited to my boyfriend's family holiday party and it'll be the first time I'm meeting the whole family. I don't want to give off the wrong first impression; can you give me any suggestions?

The safest bet is to go completely conservative. Try a simple black pant with a dressy top or a dress with a modest neckline and length. The fact that you're asking this question means that you care a lot, so ask your boyfriend for his opinion as well.

E-mail your style questions to *kim.elbo@metronews. ca.*

Vancouver's Kim Elbo has a passion for fashion. Here she shares the latest style tips.

Tiered Ruffles
Designer: Gap
Shop: Gap
Address: Various locations
gap.com

Flattering Stripes
Designer: Guess
Shop: Guess
Address: Various locations
guess.ca

Simple and Elegant
Designer: Maggy London
Shop: The Bay
Address: Various locations
thebay.com

Modish chic
Designer: Aldo
Shop: Aldo
Address: Various locations
aldoshoes.com

Shine All Over
Designer: Banana Republic
Shop: Banana Republic
Address: Various locations
bananarepublic.com

Jewelled Clasp
Designer: BCBG
Shop: BCBG
Address: Various locations
bcbg.com

holiday dresses

I am just like everyone else when it comes to holiday parties, I either pull out one of my six LBDs (little black dresses) or shop for another one. So I thought this year instead of looking for a LBD with a different cut, I'm going for a completely different colour and I think you should too. Let's liven up the holiday parties this season with dashes of colour and cute flirty cuts like these three strapless dresses. The sweetheart neckline (Guess and Maggy London) is my absolute favourite cut for a strapless dress; it's perfect for smaller cup sizes and gives shape and volume to the body. The straight across cut by the Gap is great for women with a bigger cup size, it keeps them in and looks top notch when paired with a jeweled chunky necklace.

holiday clutches

Glitter and shine your way into the holiday with a jewelled clutch. If you're not one to accessorize, or have a completely simple dress and need something to complement it, this is the bag for you. The jewelled clutch comes out every holiday and this year the options are endless: From all over jewels like the Banana Republic one to the simple clasp jewel like the BCBG clutch.

tip: Have an ink stain on your satin dress or purse? Try using rubbing alcohol to remove the stain. Dab a clean cloth into alcohol and slowly rub out the stain making sure to switch to a new and clean part of the cloth each time you rub.

accessory

Call out for an SOS this December and try out the new Sheer Organic Shine by Kiss My Face, $6.95. It's 100 per cent natural and 91 per cent organic. Available at all major drugstores.

GlobalStyle

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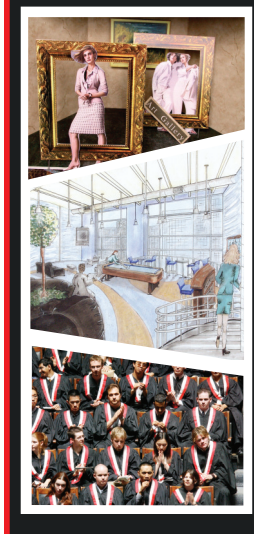

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Hot tips for sexy nails from Mad Men's makeup artist, only in the December issueof Elle Canada!
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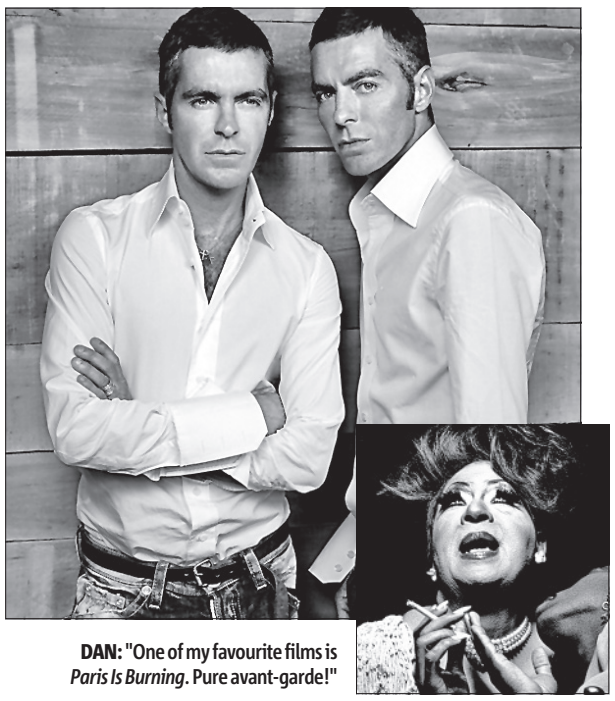
Elle Canada

Talent Show

The star power of DSquared2's Dan and Dean Caten.

by **LAURA DECARUFEL**
Senior Editor



COURTESY DSQUARED2; OFF WHITE PROD./THE KOBAL COLLECTION

DAN: "One of my favourite films is *Paris Is Burning*. Pure avant-garde!"

Dressed identically in baggy jeans and tuxedo jackets and sporting huge grins, Dan and Dean Caten of DSquared2 bounded onto the makeshift catwalk in front of a packed crowd at CTV headquarters in Toronto. "Hello!" shouted Dan. "Welcome!" echoed Dean. It was halfway through TIFF and the duo were in town to reprise their fall 2008 show of sexy secretaries and buff men in sweaters. The next day, the Ontario-born brothers were in the Holt Renfrew café, sipping soup and chatting before their personal appearance at the store.

What do you miss most about Canada? **Dan:** "Autumn. In Italy, the seasons are all mushed together. I like how you have to wear sweaters in November." **Dean:** "No one wears sweaters anymore — we grew up on that."

What are you most shy about? **Dan:** "Being in public — we want to get over that." **Dean:** "The camera doesn't scare us, but a lot of people do."

What songs do you know all the lyrics to? **Dan:** "Beyoncé's Irreplaceable and Rihanna's Umbrella."

What are your favourite smells? **Dan:** "Mountain air and freshly cut grass." **Dean:** "Fresh leaves, fall leaves...." **Dan:** "The smell of rain too — you know, when it rains in summertime." **Dean:** "Wet pavement. There is also the smell of hot days — maybe it's a beach smell." **Dan:** "Coppertone. That reminds me of the beach."

What is your most valued possession? **Dean:** "Him."

What would the title of your memoir be? **Dean:** "Him." **Dan:** "No, no. It would be Another Day Living the Dream." **Dean:** "Yes!"

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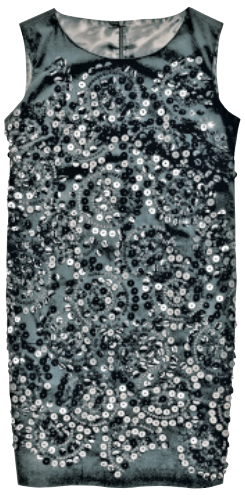
Lace, Sinéquanone ($145, 1-877-384-9651)

Cotton and polyester, Kensie ($108, *kensie.com*)

Cotton, French Collection ($238, *fcuk.com)*

Satin, MICHAEL Michael Kors ($295, 1-866-733-5677)



Cotton and sequins, Soaked in Luxury ($119, 1-800-463-8127)

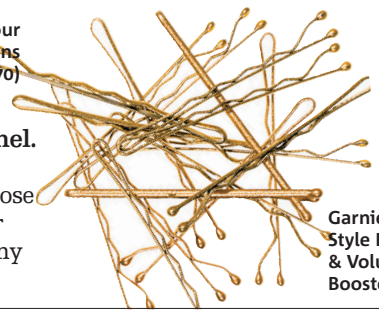
STUDIO ANDRÉ DOYON

PIN-UP GIRL

The bob goes faux for fall with subtle volume.

EXPERT: Brennen deMelo, hairstylist for L'Oréal Professionnel.

- Apply a styling primer while your hair is wet. Blow-dry, then backcomb it from mid-shaft to the ends.
- Pull your hair into a loose ponytail, securing the elastic near the end.
- Flip your hair under and anchor it with bobby pins by the nape of the neck. Pull out any shorter pieces of hair to frame your face.



Goody Colour Collection Bobby Pins in Blonde ($4.70)

Garnier Fructis Style Body & Volume Booster ($5.29)

L'Oréal Professionnel Série Expert Volume Extrême Nutritex Volumizing Shampoo and Conditioner ($15 each)

EDITORS' PICK

Glitter party

How do you transform last year's LBD into the must-have of the moment? Simple: Add a statement piece, like the twinkling glass beads of Rosemary Hedges' bib necklace ($125, 514-937-7045).

WALK ON

Can living in a pedestrian-friendly neighbourhood help you stay slim? That's what a new study from The University of Utah in Salt Lake City suggests. Researchers discovered that people who live in "walkable" neighbourhoods — usually those built before 1950, which are more densely populated and have a range of destinations for pedestrians — are less likely to gain weight, with women weighing an average of six pounds less than residents of newer locales. Don't live in a stroll-friendly area? "Park your car farther from your workplace and walk the remaining distance," says Barb Gormley, a fitness trainer in Toronto.

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Biel not designing Timberlake bags

Despite rumours to the contrary, a rep from William Rast confirms to People that it is not true that actress Jessica Biel will be designing handbags for boyfriend Justin Timberlake's denim line. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment

New Boss

Bruce Springsteen plans to release a new album in January. Working On A Dream was recorded with the E Street Band and features 12 new songs, plus two bonus tracks. BBC NEWS ONLINE

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Russell Peters to host Junos again

Peters

MUSIC Comedian Russell Peters is returning to the Junos.

The edgy comic, known for skewering a wide range of groups, will helm next spring's awards bash in Vancouver. Peters says in a release that he enjoyed hosting the show last April and was up for another bout with Canada's music elite. At the most recent Junos, he took swipes at Nickelback and Avril Lavigne. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

In brief

DVDS The most popular DVDs, according to Rogers Video: 1. Get Smart; 2. Hellboy II: The Golden Army; 3 Kung Fu Panda; 4. Transsiberian; 5. Journey to the Center of the Earth.

VIDEO GAME RENTALS The most popular game rentals according to Blockbuster Video Canada: **Playstation 3:** Call of Duty 5: World at War; **Playstation 2:** Call of Duty: World at War — Final Fronts; **Xbox 360:** Call of Duty 5: World at War; **Wii:** Wii Music

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Taylor Swift has no fear

Taylor Swift

Album: Fearless
Label: Open Road/Universal
Rating: ●●●●

EVERY NOW AND then a mistake happens in the music business and a truly talented young artist manages to sneak past the industry radar and take the world by storm. So it was with Taylor Swift, who signed with little known label Big Machine in Nashville. Last year, her song Tim McGraw went straight to the top and stayed there pretty much ever since. She's 18 now, with a second album that's sure to spit out four or five hit singles that will dominate both the country and pop charts all of next year. Swift writes about the high-school stuff she understands, but in a way that appeals to all ages. A remarkable sophomore effort.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Nickelback

Album: Dark Horse
Label: EMI
Rating: ●●

NICKELBACK SEEMS TO live in a world where all women are Playboy centrefolds who like performing for men until their "legs give out." If you're not into that, then you're a tease who looks best with "something in your mouth." When the men in Nickelback World aren't ogling butt, they're hitting bongs and getting drunk "until they fall down." If a friend turns into a junkie, then the rock Gods get all maudlin and write a song called Just Too High. It would be easy to excuse this as harmless immature crap tailored for 12-year-old boys. But it's not harmless, it's offensive. One last thing — track seven, Never Gonna Be Alone, sounds like the Backstreet Boys playing fuzz guitar.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

GETTY IMAGES

I Am... Sasha Fierce is the new album from Beyoncé.

Beast

Album: Beast
Label: Pheromone/Vega Musique **Rating:** ●●●●

VOCALIST BÉATRICE "BETTY" Bonifassi (DJ Champion, The Triplets Of Belleville soundtrack) and producer-percussionist and fellow France expatriate Jean-Phi Goncalves (Plaster, Afrodizz) have concocted a fresh debut filled with marked contrasts: Aggressive trip hop, softened James Bond theme-like pomp and even danceable rap. The spooky choir flourishes border on fromage, but certainly don't detract from this otherwise promising experiment.

Ian Nathanson/for Metro Canada

MusicReviews

music@metronews.ca

Beyoncé

Album: I Am... Sasha Fierce
Label: Columbia/Sony BMG
Rating: ●●●

WHEN BEYONCÉ REVEALED she had an alter ego — Sasha Fierce — you couldn't help but roll your eyes. Now, though, she's taken things a step further by releasing a two-disc affair, with one side as her sweet, laid-back self and the other as her more aggressive, sexualized persona. The first half is full of bland, slow-moving adult contemporary pop; the second is loaded with amped-up R&B barnburners.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

Dido

Album: Safe Trip Home
Label: Arista/Sony BMG
Rating: ●●●

ON HER THIRD disc Dido treats fans to familiar, subtle, trip-hop vibes and soothing vocals, but with extra strings and atmospheric undertones. She plays it a bit safe — songs move at a glacial pace, and while the lyrics are revealing and honest, they cross over into cheesiness territory one too many times.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

David Cook

Album: David Cook
Label: Sony BMG
Rating: ●●●

SURPRISE. THE AMERICAN Idol with the emo eyes and overanxious pout has released a Daughtry-like mainstream rocker. The lead single Light On is a bit of a yawner, but Declaration (co-written by Johnny Rzeznik) is a significant step up. There are a couple heavy-duty rockers, but for the most part the album is best described by the track Mr. Sensitive.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

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Jolie to replace Cruise

Angelina Jolie has confirmed reports that she will replace Tom Cruise in the espionage thriller Edwin A. Salt. The film's writers reworked the lead character — a CIA officer falsely accused of spying for the Russians — to be female. TVGUIDE.COM

Fest films depict cancer struggle, triumph

After Lori Benson was told over the telephone that she had breast cancer, she went downstairs to the office of her husband's film company below their New York City apartment to break the news.

And so began her journey through surgery and chemotherapy, with a camera tagging along to document the first doctor visit, the last breastfeeding of her 14-month-old child and efforts to understand a complicated range of post-surgery treatment options.

The result is a love letter to her daughter. Dear Talula is among a slate of emotional and educational films showing this weekend at the first Breast Fest Film Festival at the Royal Ontario Museum.

"He captured moments that I never ever would have thought as a director to tell someone to show up for," she said of her cameraman, who was a friend of her husband's.

Benson ended up with a 34-minute film that aired on HBO and has shown at festivals around the world. It's also available for sale online.

"He captured moments that I never ever would have thought as a director to tell someone to show up for."
Breast cancer survivor Lori Benson

Talula was too young to know what was going on then, but will attend Breast Fest as a seven-year-old with her mother. "Today I'm fine, but three years after my diagnosis I found a little tumour under my arm, on the same side, and it turned out to be cancer. And I had to go through this whole journey again."

Dedicated to breast cancer awareness, Breast Fest is being organized by Rethink Breast Cancer, a charity that reaches out to young people concerned about and affected by breast cancer.

The opening night features the Canadian premiere of Living Proof, starring Harry Connick, Jr., as Dr. Dennis Slamon, who helped develop the breast cancer drug Herceptin.

Portions of the films are online at breastfestfilmfest.com.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

More Rock in Toronto's future

CONCERTS Get ready to rock some more.

We Will Rock You, the Dora Award-winning musical based on songs by Queen, has been extended until Feb. 1.

A new block of tickets goes on sale Saturday, and beginning Dec. 2, seats every Tuesday will cost only $20. Tickets are available through TicketKing at 416-872-1212 or 1-800-461-3333, and at www.mirvish.com.

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Flatley to host NBC reality dancing show
Michael Flatley (The Lord of the Dance) has signed on to host NBC's new dance-competition show Superstar Dancers of the World, according to Variety. TVGUIDE.COM

It's Showtime for Seth

Rogen to develop cable comedy series set in porn shop

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

"It's quaint that Rogen and Goldberg have chosen to set their show in a porn shop — the equivalent of a drama about the media being set in a letterpress typesetting shop ... A porn website startup would have been more contemporary."

DIRTY PICTURES: Showtime looks like the place to go on the dial for pervy entertainment next season if two new projects pan out.

The ominipresent Seth Rogen — love the guy, but even I'm getting tired of seeing his face — is developing a new comedy about three post-collegiate buddies running a porn shop, according to a Variety story. There's no word yet on who's set to star in the show, which is being executive produced by Rogen and his production partner Evan Goldberg, who worked on the screenplays for Superbad and Pineapple Express.

There's no reason to believe that this can't be good, especially if Rogen and Goldberg can tap into the strange relationship young men — and older ones — have with porn in what's referred to as the "post-feminist" era. Varying from bored ambivalence to connoisseurship, it's a relationship conditioned by the unprecedented ease with which porn can be consumed today, as well as the likelihood that the young male consumer might find their enthusiasm for porn compromised by scores of young women who will eagerly cop to sharing their interest, which a lad will have to call a fantasy if they're forced to be honest.

It's also quaint that Rogen and Goldberg have chosen to set their show in a porn shop — the equivalent of a drama about the media being set in a letterpress typesetting shop. The storefront porn merchant, like the record store and the video rental shop, is a quaint technological anachronism in the digital age; a porn website startup would have been more contemporary, though it might have ended up looking like a cross between NewsRadio and late night Showcase fare like Porno Valley.

Showtime is also developing a reality TV series about hookers, according to the porn industry website Reverse Cowgirl, with one-time Fox big deal Stephen Chao at the helm. Alas, Chao — the man behind Cops and America's Most Wanted — is having a hard time casting the show, which plans to rent a Hollywood Hills mansion for the cast to ply their trade.

"The show won't be demeaning or exploitative because, as the director explained it, they're looking to cast working girls without implants," according to the website.

Well, that changes everything, doesn't it? There is, of course, the little matter of legality, not to mention the effect celebrity — even the clammy, blush-inducing type that a Showcase adult series might bestow — would have in a profession that usually values anonymity. It's like searching the ranks of Washington lobbyists for the stars of a show provisionally titled The Big Nasty Graft and Earmarks Spectacle of Democracy Gone Rancid.

Ryder hospitalized after London flight

PEOPLE Actress Winona Ryder was briefly hospitalized after falling ill on a British Airways flight to London's Heathrow Airport yesterday, her publicist said.

Mara Buxbaum said the 37-year-old was taken to a west London hospital yesterday "as a precaution" and had since been released.

"She's fine now," Buxbaum said. She declined to go into details of Ryder's illness.

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TO		Vu	SC		C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
11/20/08	primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Megastructures		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Foyle's War (Part 2 of 2)		Masterworks		Agenda-Paikin
		211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Survivor: Gabon (N)		The Office (N)	Billable Hours	(10:01) Life on Mars		News (N)
		215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
		210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	The Nature of Things (N)		Doc Zone (HDTV) (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
		214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Ugly Betty (N)		30 Rock	30 Rock	Friends	Friends	News (N)
		212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Dance	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Grey's Anatomy (N)		ER "Age of Innocence"		News (N)
		218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Name Is Earl	Kath & Kim (N)	*Anna's Storm* (2007, Action) Sheree Wilson. Premiere.				News (N)
		137	763	13	TFO	Panorama		Météo	Aventures	*Le Trou* ★★★ (1960, Drame) Michel Constantin, Marc Michel.				Volt
		-	-	14	-	Cold Case		News (N)		News (N)		2Half Men	King	Cold Case
		213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	Smallville "Bride" (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
		-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Survivor: Gabon (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(10:01) Eleventh Hour		News (N)
		-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Name Is Earl	Kath & Kim (N)	The Office (N)	30 Rock	ER "Age of Innocence"		News (N)
		-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Ugly Betty (N)		Grey's Anatomy (N)		(10:01) Life on Mars		News
		219	346	20	ACH-B	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Medium (N)		America's Next Top Model		(10:01) Eleventh Hour		News (N)
		-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Kitchen Nightmares (N)		Kitchen Nightmares (PA)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
		-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Goodnight Swt.	Live From Lincoln Center (N)			Journey to Palomar (N)			Business Rpt.
		297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Smallville "Bride" (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		CW11 News at Ten (N)		Two/Half Men
		296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (HDTV PA) (N)		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
		298	653	332	TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville
	news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour David Foster.		CBC News: The National		The Nature of Things		National
		500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
		509	504	79	CNB	CNBC Reports				On the Money		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
	sports	405	417	22	net	Junior Hockey CHL -- Teams TBA. (Live)						Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
		400	400	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	Madden Nation	NFL Football Cincinnati Bengals at Pittsburgh Steelers. From Heinz Field in Pittsburgh.						SportsCentre
		411	457	58	OLN	Ed's Up	Videos	Commando: On the Front Line		Survivorman		Pilot Guides Specials		Pilot Guides
		417	406	81	SC	Pinks	Pass Time	Pinks -- All Out		Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks (HDTV)
	family	551	542	25	YTV	H2O, Just Add	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Sabrina-Witch	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline Proj	Mystery Hnt.
		554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		Wayside	Johnny Test	Futurama	The Critic	Robot Chicken	Code Monkeys
		556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Divine Design	Real Est	Love It-List It
		570	580	29	MM	Meet Barkers	disBand	Live at Much: Twilight		50 Cent: Money and Power		50 Cent: Money and Power		Muchmsc Ctdn
		615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Extreme"		The First 48 "Memphis"		The First 48 "Blindsided"		The First 48 (HDTV)		Crime 360
		700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Molise Terra d'Incanto (Italian).		Sicilia: la Terra Benedetta		Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
		571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Back In	Mariah Carey: Mimi		Listed		Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Party of Five
		575	583	38	CMT	The Wilkinsons	The Wilkinsons	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Gone, Reunion
		616	521	39	SHO	Painkiller Jane		ReGenesis (HDTV)		Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Saving Grace (HDTV)		House
		620	523	40	BVO	Desperate Housewives		Snapshot	In the Mind ...	*Intern Academy* ★ (2004, Comedy) Peter Oldring, Pat Kelly.				Law & Order
		601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	ET Canada	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		X-Weighted "Debbi"		The Biggest Loser		Rich Poor
		522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Witness"		Lost Worlds		Finding the Fallen		NCIS "Witness"		Crime Stories
		625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	VIP	Choc. News	Daily Show
		600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes on Homes		The Fix	Disaster DIY	Home to Flip	Real Renos (N)	Holmes-Homes
		294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	*Mr. Deeds* ★ (2002, Comedy)		
		576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*Dirty* ★★ (2005, Crime Drama) Cuba Gooding Jr..				American Gangster (N)		Judge Hatchett
		627	528	50	SPC	Lost "S.O.S."		Star Trek: Voyager		Battlestar Galactica		Chuck (N)		Stargate SG-1
		581	566	52	MTV	Busted	After	MTV News	Cribs	The Hills	Exiled	Exiled		MTV Live
		618	524	54	TROP	Beverly Hills, 90210		Make or Break	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
		603	561	56	FOOD	The Main	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Jamie's Kitchen Australia (N)		Restaurant
		261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God	Keeping Up	Join Us (N)				American Exp.
		621	527	63	STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	etalk	Look-A-Like	Live at eTalk	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
		553	546	65	TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	Toot & Puddle	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
		115	711	101	TVA	La Fièvre de la danse (SC)		Occupation double			Vlog (SC)	TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
		126	730	102	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
		526	507	249	VIVA	Judging Amy		Commander In Chief		The West Wing		Passion	Homicide File	Psychic Inv.
		300	601	301	M1	(7:15) *Kaw* (2007, Horror) Sean Patrick Flanery.				*Control* (2007, Docudrama) Sam Riley, Craig Parkinson.				*Joy Division*
		305	612	306	PIX	(6:20) *The Alamo* ★★★ (1960, Historical Drama)				*Bad Boys* ★★★ (1995, Action) Martin Lawrence.				*Blindside*

critics' corner

CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
In this new episode, evidence seems to point to the prime suspect in a murder case 12 years earlier as the possible killer of a mother and her child. Is the connection merely coincidental, or has a sinister, heartless killer resurfaced? Grissom (William Petersen) and the CSI team try to connect the dots in "Woulda, Coulda, Shoulda." 8 PM on CTV

South Park
The fate of the world lies in the hands of Cartman's ultracool binder. But this is no ordinary school tool. Oh, no. The "Trapper Keeper" is really a superbeing bent on world domination. And as usual, it's up to Stan, Kyle, Kenny and, perhaps Cartman — if he can only bear to give up his beloved notebook — to help save the day. 9:30 PM on COM

Silverstone pens a book
Actress Alicia Silverstone has turned her hand to writing — she has penned a book on vegan dieting titled The Kind Diet. It's due out next year. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Spears' 'mistake' marriage

MARRIAGE Britney Spears says marrying Kevin Federline was a mistake, female-first.co.uk reports.

The singer, who has two sons, three-year-old Sean Preston and two-year-old Jayden James, with Federline wishes she had never walked down the aisle with the former backing dancer.

"I think I married for the wrong reasons. Instead of following my heart and doing what made me really happy, I just did it for the sake of the idea of everything," Spears said in a promo for her new TV documentary Britney: For the Record.

Spears also revealed the divorce has influenced her music.

"Your music is a reflection of what you're going through," Spears added.

Spears and Federline married in September 2004 and split in summer 2006. Their divorce was finalized in July 2007.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mills turns tables on tabloids

CELEBRITY Sir Paul McCartney's ex-wife Heather Mills has made complaints against three U.K. national newspapers for inaccurate reporting, invasion of privacy and harassment, imdb.com reports.

Mills was heavily criticized in the press for her conduct during her messy divorce from the former Beatle, in which she won a settlement of $38 million US.

The former glamour model has now asked the U.K. media's governing body, the Press Complaints Commission, to investigate the Daily Express, Daily Mail and Britain's The Sun over stories the newspapers have published about her.

It will investigate her claims and the newspapers could face a reprimand if the allegations are proved.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Martin planning to retire soon?

CAREER Chris Martin is reportedly planning to retire next year, female-first.co.uk reports.

The Coldplay front man doesn't want to become an aging rock star and is keen to quit music before he feels too old.

"I'm 31 now and I don't think bands should keep going past 33," he reportedly said. "So we're trying to pack in as much as possible. Up until the end of next year, we'll just go for it in every sense."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Cyrus keeping her guard up

TRUST As she approaches her 16th birthday, Miley Cyrus says she is learning to keep her guard up, People.com reports.

"I think you have to be really careful about the people you trust," the Hannah Montana star, who turns 16 on Sunday, tells Ellen DeGeneres in an interview. "There (are) very few, two or three people that I would actually go to with anything and know that it would never leave the room," she says. "Two of those are my parents."

And the other person in Cyrus' inner circle? Boyfriend Justin Gaston, 20. Giggling in her Ellen interview, Cyrus says the two have been dating for "a couple months."

She adds: "He's a singer, he's really cute, and he's nice and he's a Christian and I really like that."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Duff wants more TV guest work

CAREER Hilary Duff is begging TV bosses to give her roles in hit shows The Office and 30 Rock after signing a deal with the network behind them, imdb.com reports.

Duff recently signed a new one-year contract with NBC, which will result in her fronting a new show.

The deal will also lead to Duff making appearances in other programs the network broadcasts. And she has already registered her preference.

When it comes to her own show, the former Lizzie McGuire star wants to come up with something new and refreshing.

"I would like to do something funny ... or I would like to kick ass or something," the 21-year-old tells MTV News.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Jackman named Sexiest Man Alive

CELEBRITY Actor Hugh Jackman has been named People magazine's Sexiest Man Alive. After poring over a list of eligible, high-profile film stars, musicians and athletes, editors at the magazine named the 40-year-old its No. 1 of 2008.

Jackman succeeds last year's top man, actor Matt Damon. Meanwhile, Jackman has responded modestly to news of his sexy status: "My wife (Deborra-Lee Furness) said, 'I could have told them that two years ago,' Then she said, 'Obviously Brad Pitt wasn't available this year.'"

METRO NEWS SERVICES

HELLO!

Hot shot of the week

JENNIFER TZAR/NETTWERK

Sarah McLachlan, 40, now separated from her husband of 11 years, Ashwin Sood, has worked through her pain with two new personal songs on her greatest hits album, Closer. The Vancouver-based singer-songwriter says she's in a good place. "I've lived my life very instinctively and it's worked out pretty well up to this point," she tells HELLO! Canada.

HELLO! CANADA magazine, now available on newsstands – read more at hellomagazine.ca

Scarlett Johansson's bathroom shocker

CELEBRITY Actress Scarlett Johansson is still shocked over the vulgar remarks Lindsay Lohan allegedly scribbled about her on a New York City bathroom stall because she barely knows her, imdb.com reports.

The actress reportedly wrote "Scarlett is a bloody c—" with permanent marker before making her exit during a night out in 2006.

Johansson is still baffled by the graffiti since the two actresses have only met a handful of times. "I don't know what the motivation was," she tells Allure magazine.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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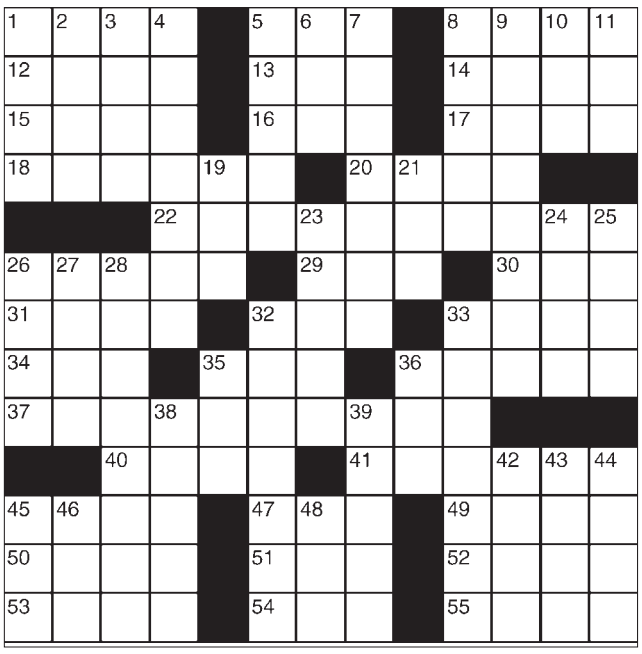


Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	4		9		6		5	
			5		3			
1		5				3		7
		8	2		5	9		
2								5
		3	4		9	1		
6		7				2		8
			6		2			
	2		7		8		6	

Crossword across

1 Baby bed
5 Ostrich's cousin
8 Unwanted e-mail
12 Staffer
13 Operated
14 Spelunkers' place
15 Yuletide rendition
16 Joan of —
17 On in years
18 Plays for time
20 Domesticate
22 Average guy
26 Take five
29 "The Gold Bug" author
30 Convent denizen
31 Actor Sharif
32 Lair
33 "Beetle Bailey" dog
34 Writer Tan
35 Shell game item
36 Beginning
37 Average address
40 Bleak, as literature
41 Impudent
45 Building block name
47 Chances, for short
49 Regulation
50 Piece of work
51 Rage
52 Sorts
53 Use a paper towel
54 Heavy weight
55 Evict

Crossword down

1 Supermarket stack
2 Laugh-a-minute sort
3 Concept
4 Sylvia Plath work, with "The"
5 Obliterate
6 Scratch
7 Anointing ritual
8 Rascally one
9 Exhibitions
10 "Hail, Caesar!"
11 Not sml. or lge.
19 Bagel topper
21 Pink-slip
23 Lance
24 Just adorable
25 Entanglement
26 Leave your cell area
27 Jane Austen heroine
28 Storing
32 Motown
33 Easternmost Great Lake
35 Omega preceder
36 "— the ramparts ..."
38 Lariat feature
39 Jed Clampett portrayer
42 Bantu speaker
43 Benevolent order
44 Egg container
45 Depressed
46 Beside (Pref.)
48 Paid player

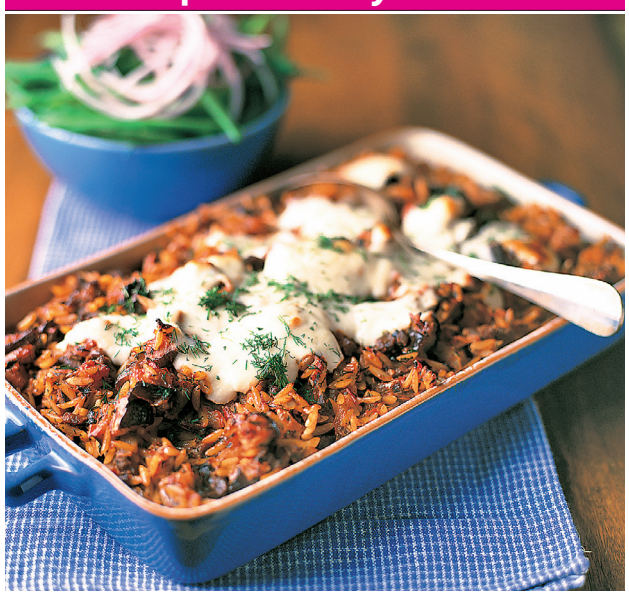
PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

1	9	4	2	6	5	8	3	7
3	6	2	4	7	8	1	9	5
8	7	5	1	9	3	6	2	4
5	1	8	3	2	7	4	6	9
9	3	6	5	1	4	2	7	8
2	4	7	9	8	6	5	1	3
7	5	3	6	4	2	9	8	1
6	8	9	7	5	1	3	4	2
4	2	1	8	3	9	7	5	6

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Greek Lamb and Eggplant Bake

INGREDIENTS:
14 oz (400 g) lean minced lamb
1 onion, finely chopped
3 garlic cloves, crushed
1 eggplant, cut into 1 cm cubes
200 ml vegetable stock
2 x 400 g tins chopped tomatoes
1/4 cup (50 mL) chopped fresh mint
1/4 cup (50 mL) chopped fresh dill (optional)
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
11 oz (350 g) risoni or orzo
1 1/4 cup (300mL) plain low-fat yogurt
1 large egg

METHOD:
1. Brown lamb in a large frying pan over moderate heat. Add onion and garlic and cook for 5 minutes, stirring often, until onion is soft. Add eggplant and stock and cook, stirring, for 5 minutes, until eggplant is tender.
2. Stir in tomatoes and half the herbs. Season with salt and pepper and bring to a boil. Reduce and simmer, covered, for 20 minutes, or until lamb is tender.
3. Meanwhile, cook risoni or orzo according to packet instructions, until al dente. Drain. Preheat oven to 180 C.
4. Beat together yogurt and egg in a small bowl.
5. Stir drained pasta into lamb mixture, then spoon into a large baking dish, measuring about 7 in. x 11 in. (18 x 28 cm). Spread yogurt mixture over top and bake for about 20 minutes until piping hot. Sprinkle with remaining mint and dill just before serving.

SERVES 6

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Your reputation is on the line. Don't fall for a fake persona. A friend is playing against time.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A family member is willing to share knowledge. Grand gestures won't impress you. Time will provide the truth about silly complaints.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Forced obedience causes a slow burn. Irrelevant amusement begins to get boring. A compromising friend wants to talk too much again.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
The manipulation of friends begins to rankle. Discourage someone's kleptomania. Create new opportunities for a family member.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Outrageous things will happen. Expending too much effort brings no reward. Communicate the importance of giving and receiving love.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A family provides shelter and protection. Persuade someone to do the right thing. A situation improves when you speak your mind.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A compulsion to win helps you to manipulate your resources. Naughtiness makes you grit your teeth. Assert yourself to ensure co-operation.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Refuse to be disheartened. A woman calls your name to play a game. Someone's relief is plain enough for everybody to see.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A wonderful woman releases you from inhibitions. Avoid using mind-altering substances. An extreme reaction will baffle a lazy creature.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
You'll find satisfaction in caring for the hopeless. Try to ignore it when someone gets away with a crime. Pay attention to mischief-makers.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
A love affair makes your head spin. Stand firm when exposed to fine feelings. A bashful buddy wants to help but fears rejection.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Have your sewing tools and first aid kit handy for emergencies. Be ready for a few surprises. A comforting treat will be provided.

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25th Anniversary Edition shown

2009 Tucson 25th Anniversary Edition

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Limited model shown

Or lease from

$168** at **4.3%** Nominal Lease Rate

per mo./60 mos. $1,450 Down Payment

For info. only **8.23%**** Effective lease rate for 60 mos.

Limited model shown

2008 Entourage L

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Cash Purchase Price

$11,000 Cash Purchase Adjustment

Or finance with

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™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trade marks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp., and used under licence. ♦Cash purchase price adjustments are for cash purchases only and are calculated against the lease/finance starting price. Cash purchase price adjustments are available on all 2008 Santa Fe GL 2.7L FWD 5-speed of $6,000/2009 Accent 3 Dr L 5-speed of $3,600/2009 Sonata GL I4 5-speed or automatic of $3,680 (other price adjustment in the amount of $320 is available for any purchase or lease of 2009 Sonata GL I4 5-speed or automatic models)/2009 Tucson 25th Anniversary Edition of $3,000/2009 Elantra L 5-speed of $1,850/2008 Entourage L of $11,000. Cash purchase prices for models shown: 2008 Santa Fe Limited 7-passenger/2009 Accent GL Sport/2009 Sonata Limited/2009 Tucson 25th Anniversary Edition/2009 Elantra Limited/2008 Entourage Limited of $30,945/$15,695/$27,495/$22,295/$21,945/$31,495. Delivery and Destination charges of ($1,610/$1,345/$1,415/$1,610/$1,345/$1,610), registration, insurance, licence fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ◊Purchase Financing available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services on all new 2008 Santa Fe and 2008 Entourage models at 0%/0% nominal finance rates (based on interest charges only) for 72/72 month terms. Financing examples: 2008 Santa Fe GL 2.7L FWD 5-speed/2008 Entourage L at $25,995/$30,995 at 0%/0% per annum equals $361.04/$430.49 per month for 72/72 months for a total obligation of $25,995/$30,995. Cash price is $19,995/$19,995. C.O.B. of $6,000/$11,000 and effective finance rates of 8.43%/14.66% are partially based on the cash purchase adjustment foregone by financing. **Lease offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2009 Accent L 3Dr 5-speed/2009 Sonata GL I4 5-speed/2009 Tucson 25th Anniversary Edition/2009 Elantra L with a nominal lease rate of 1.9%/1.2%/3.4%/4.3%. Nominal lease rates are based on interest charges only. Monthly payment is $148/$228/$248/$168 per month for a 60/60/48/60 month lease. Down Payment of $995/$1,700/$3,221/$1,450 and first monthly payment required. Total lease obligation is $9,875/$15,380/$15,125/$11,530. Lease offers exclude Delivery and Destination charges of ($1,610/$1,345/$1,415/$1,610/$1,345). applicable licence fees, insurance, registration, PPSA ($45), and taxes. $0 security deposit on all models. 20,000 km allowance per year applies. Additional charge of $0.10/km. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Effective lease rates are partially based on the cash purchase adjustment foregone by leasing a new 2009 Accent L 3Dr/2009 Sonata GL I4 5-speed/2009 Tucson 25th Anniversary Edition/2009 Elantra L with an effective lease rate of 11.78%/7.74%/8.21%/8.23% for 60/60/48/60 months. ◆◊**Offers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. ΔHyundai Accent received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among compact multi-activity vehicles in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2008 U.S. Vehicle Dependability Study℠. Study based on responses from over 52,000 original U.S. owners of 2005 model-year vehicles, measuring more than 250 models. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in January to April 2008. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. ΔSee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.